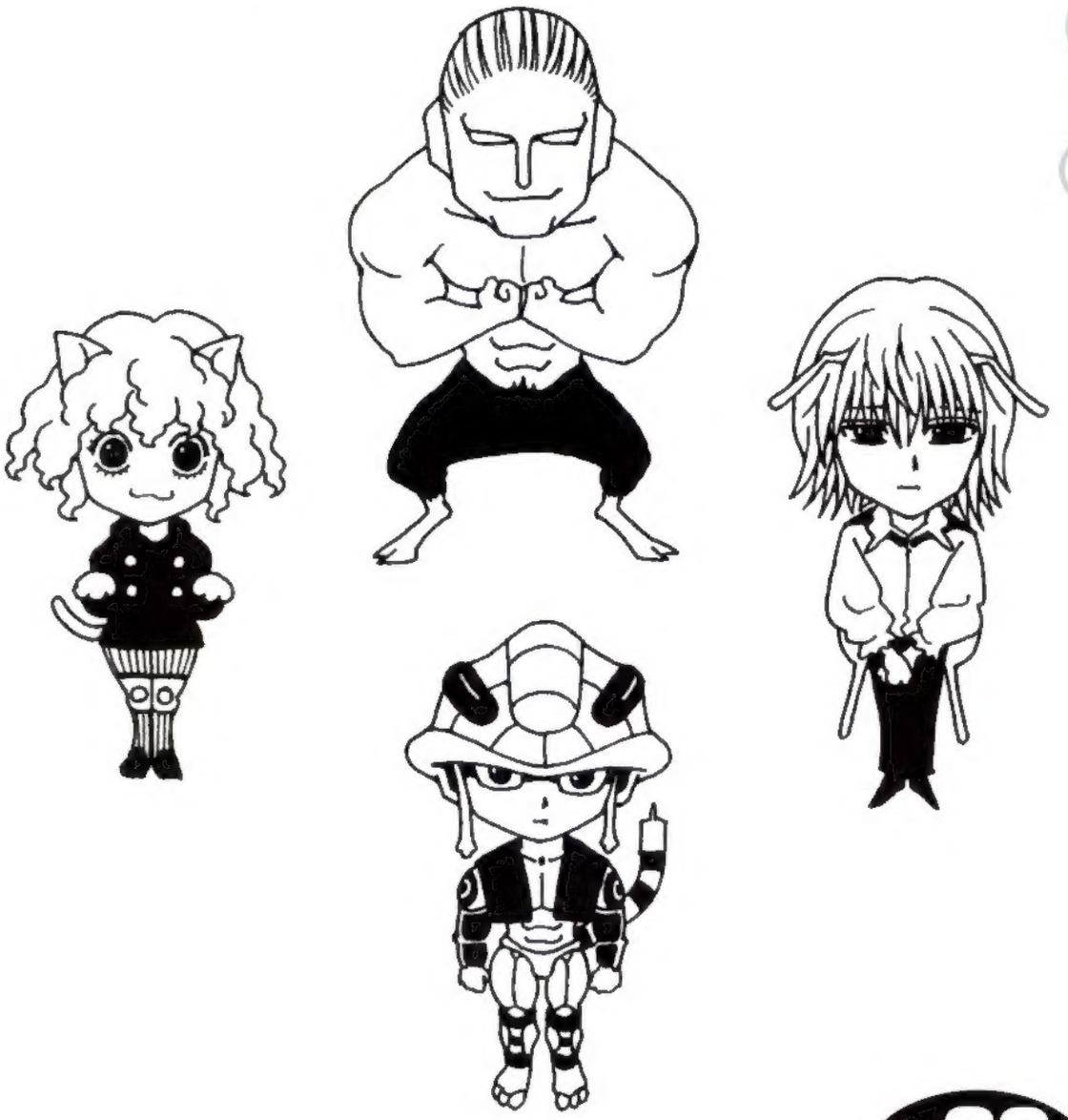
JUMP COMICS

6—1



NO.23

HUNTER × HUNTER

ハンター × ハンター

冨樫義博

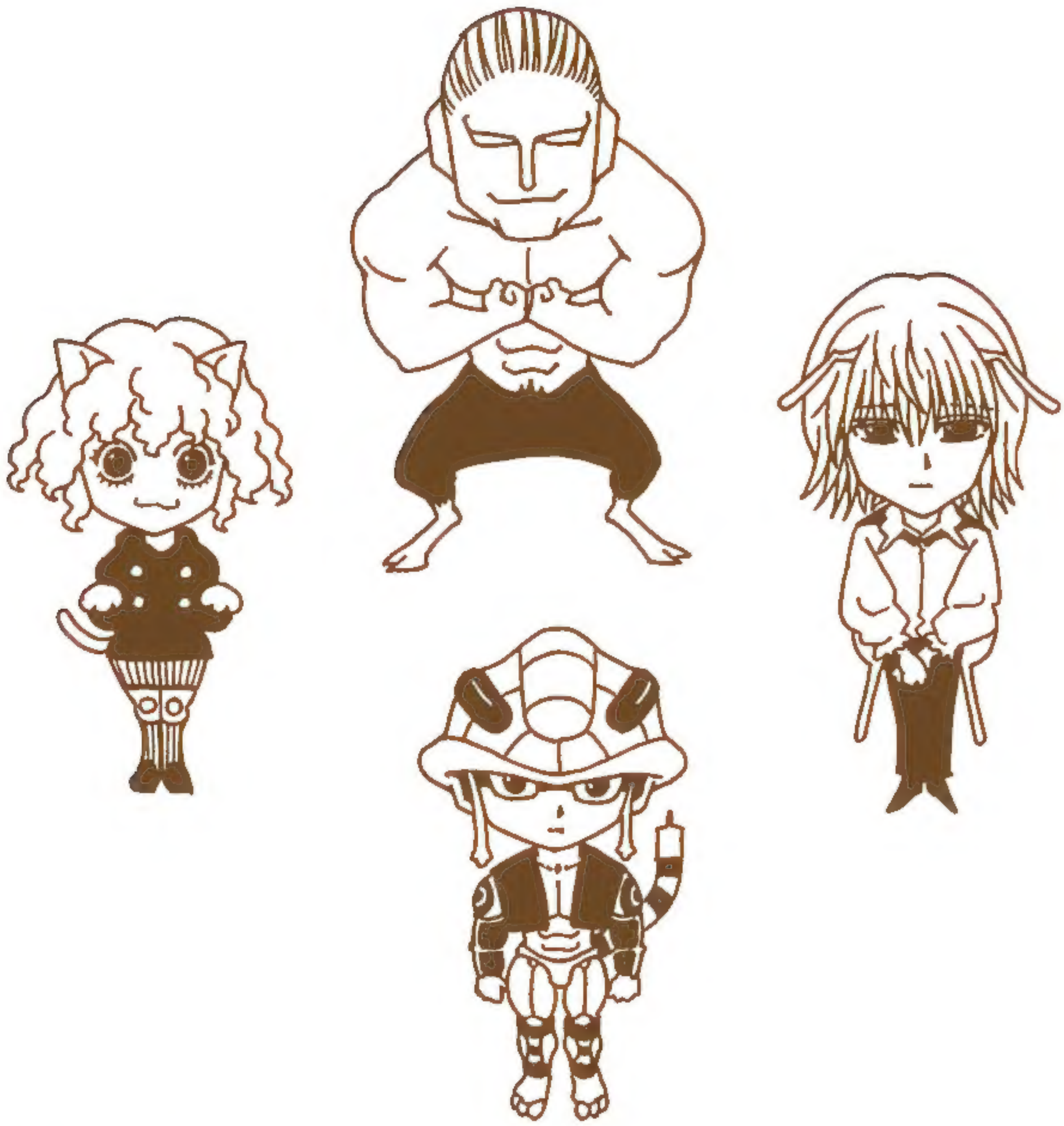
DIGITAL

DIGITAL COLORED COMICS

23

SHUEISHA

JUMP COMICS



HUNTER × HUNTER

ハンター × ハンター

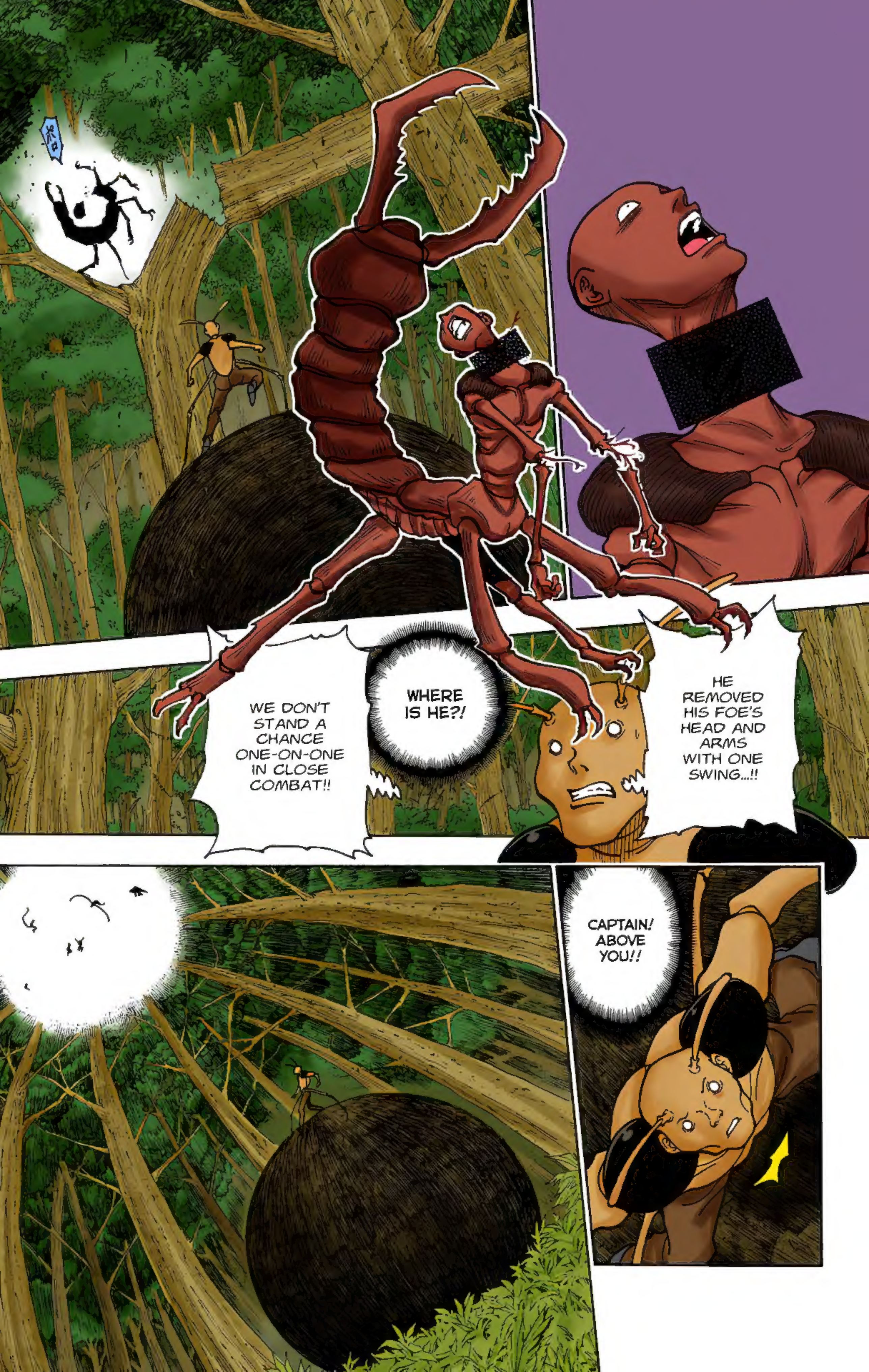
ナンバー
NO.23 6—①

とみ　がし　よし　ひろ
富樫義博

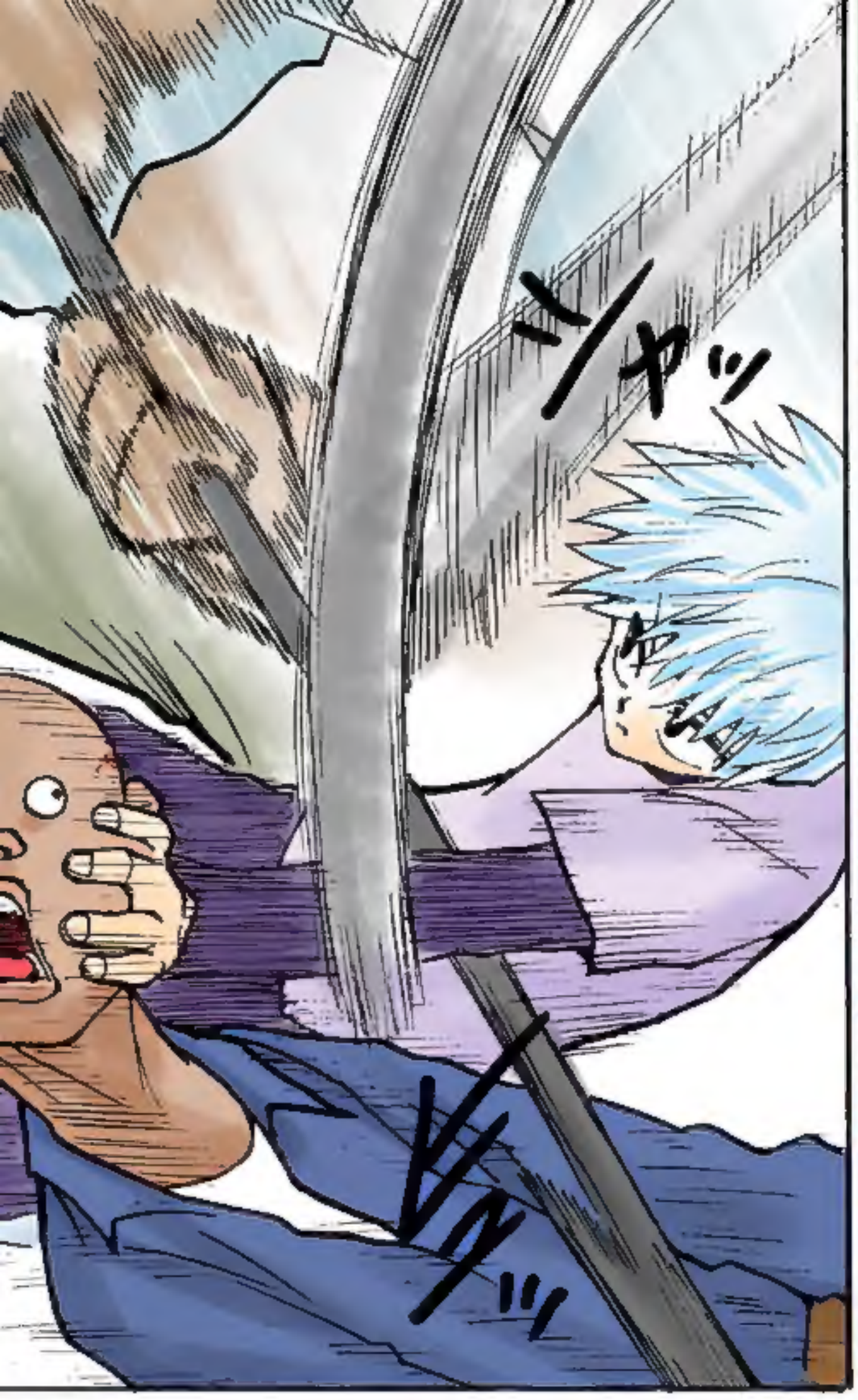
★This Work Is Based On The Author's Original Drawing In Addition To The Author's Color Original Drawing This Is A Special Edition Version That Was Digitally Colored By Shueisha.

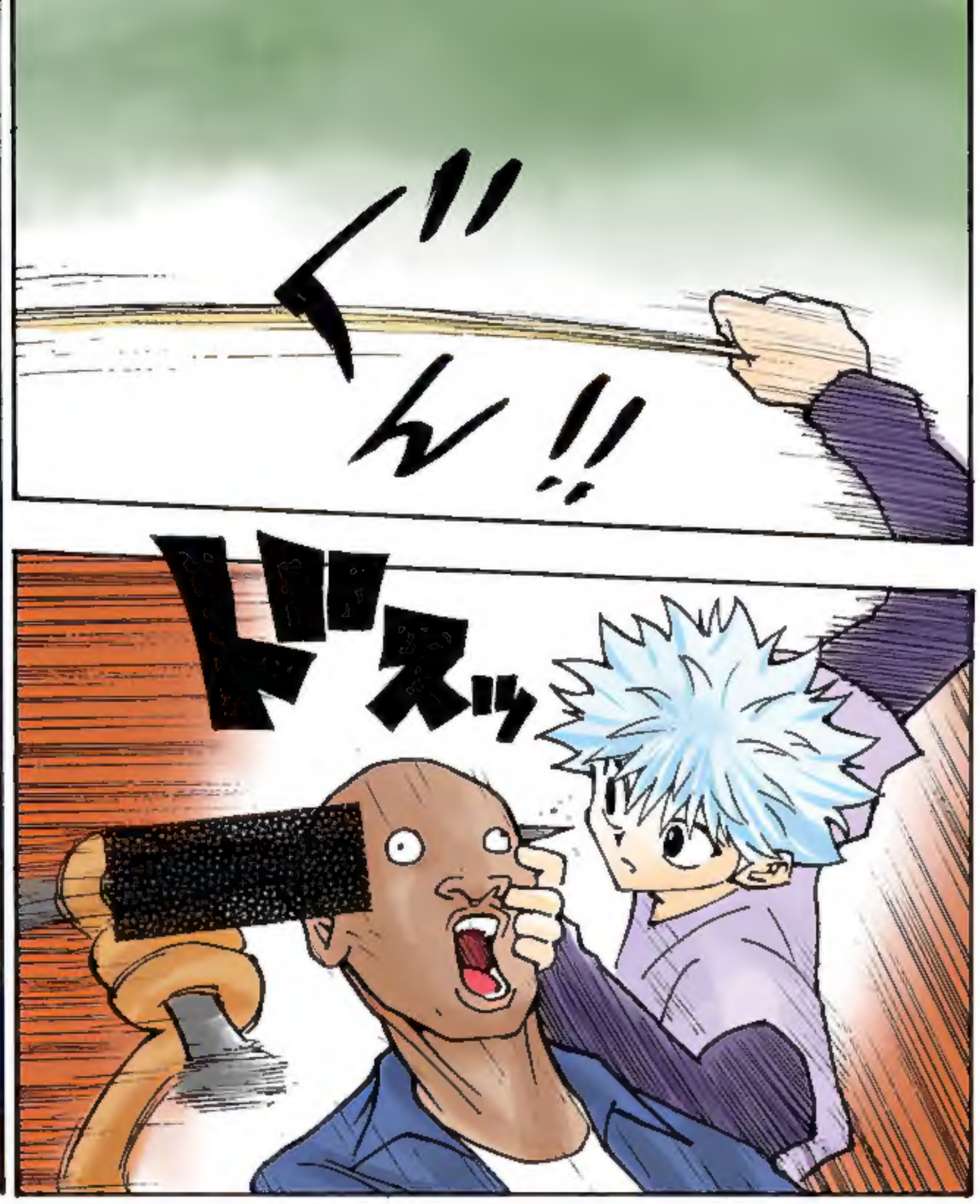
No.236 ◆ 8: PART ②

ドゴォ
ズゴゴゴゴゴ
ギリ
!!

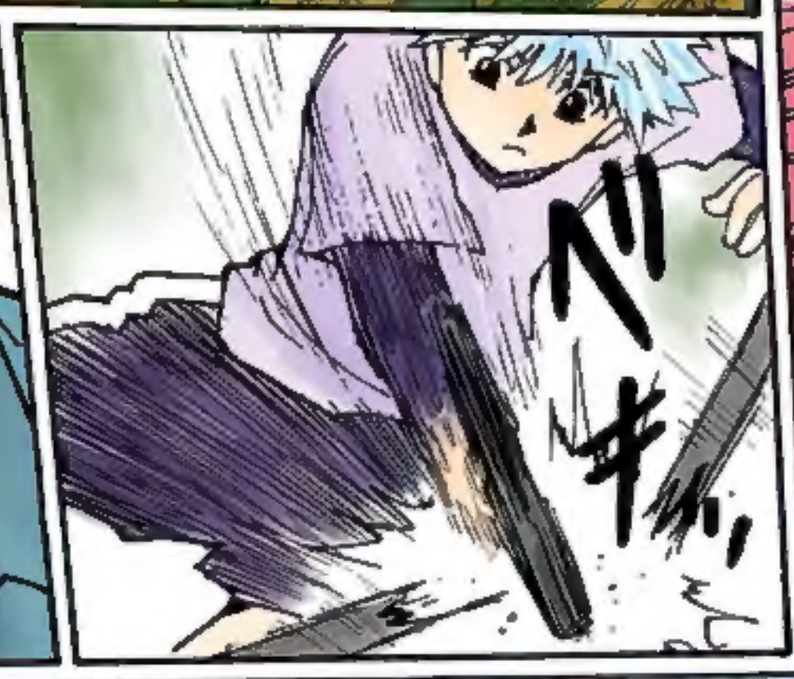

WE DON'T STAND A CHANCE ONE-ON-ONE IN CLOSE COMBAT!!
WHERE IS HE?!
HE REMOVED HIS FOE'S HEAD AND ARMS WITH ONE SWING...!!
CAPTAIN! ABOVE YOU!!

ザッ
ヒュオッ
ニヤリ
ズリュ
GA...
ドパッ

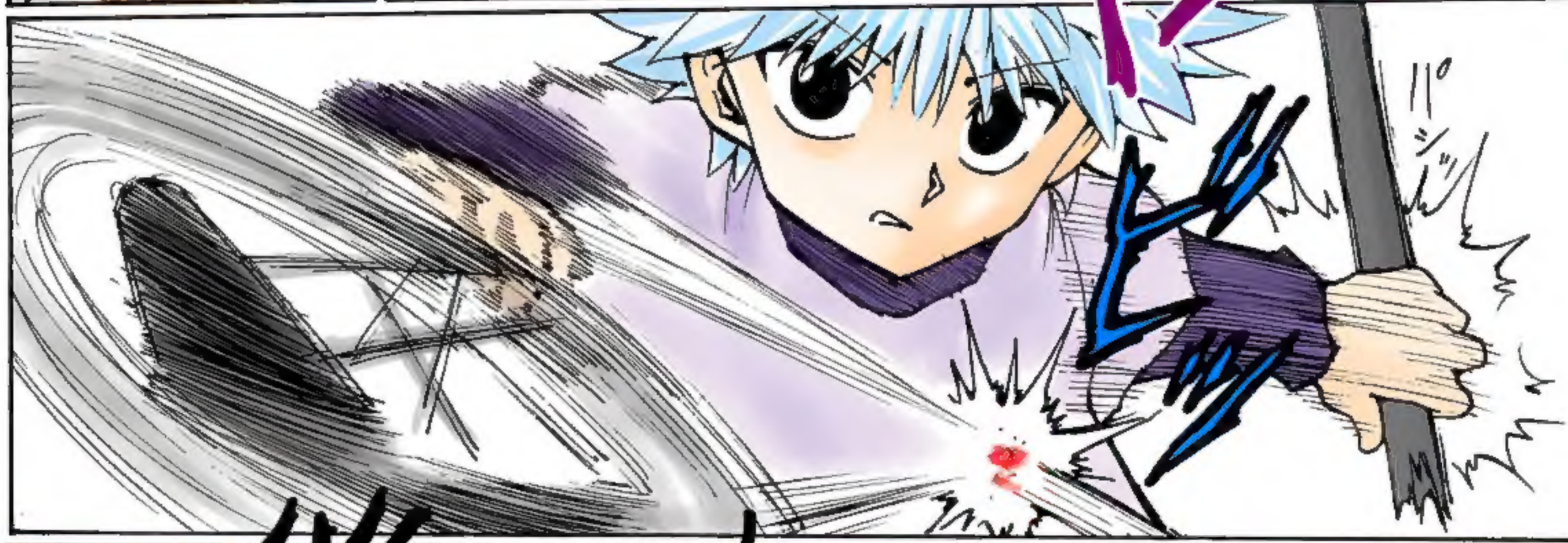

ヤバッ


ぐん!!
ドスッ

ヤバッ



110



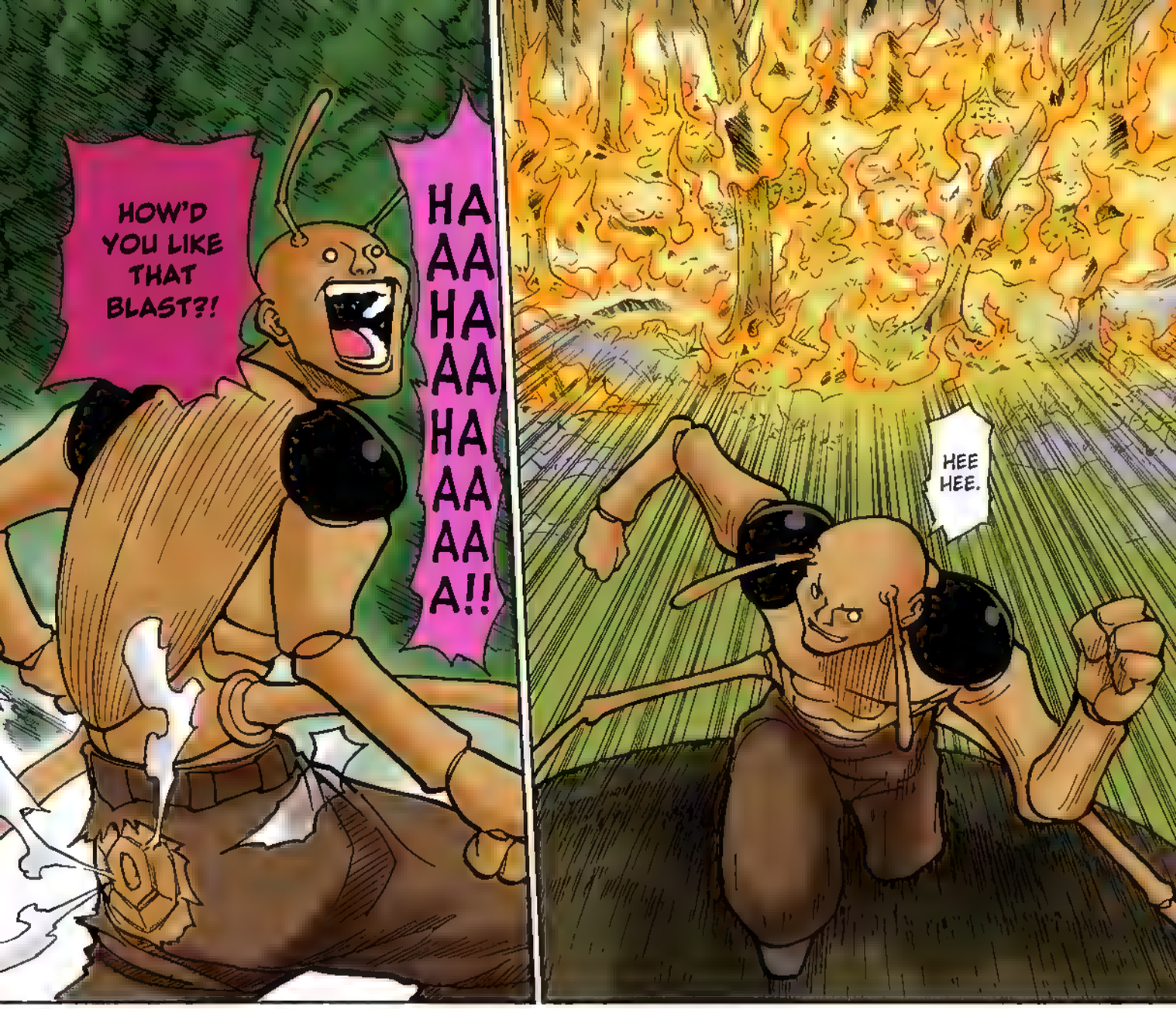
GAH!

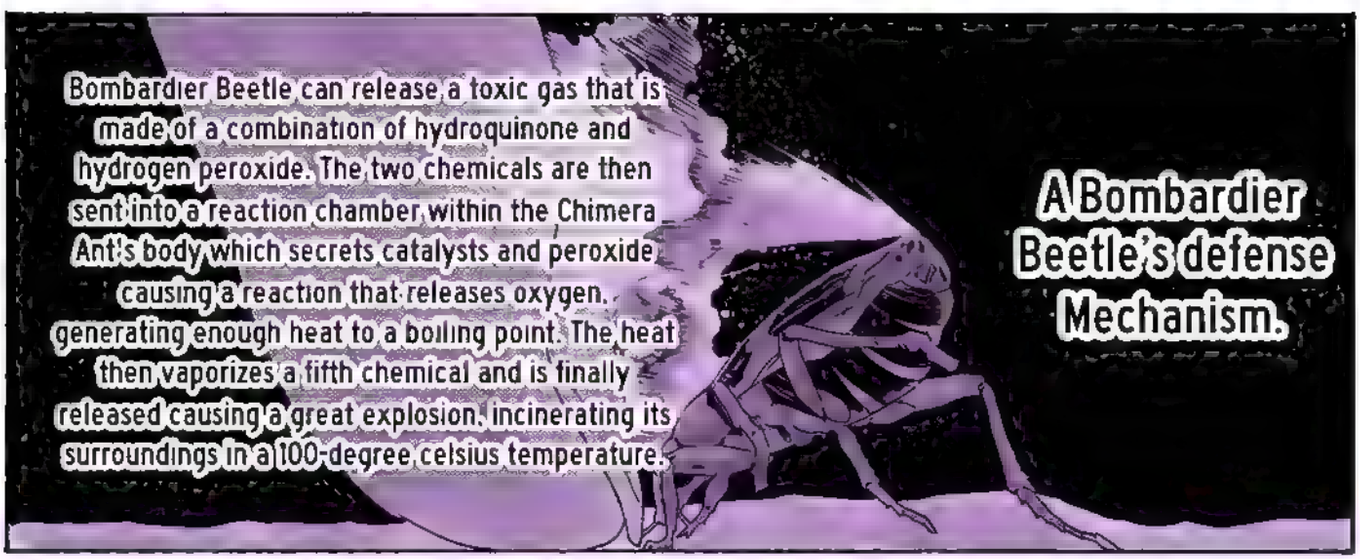
UHN!

DAMN YOU...

I'M GONNA DIE...

I WON'T LET YOU GET AWAY!!
YOU MUST BE THE LEADER!
I'LL FINISH YOU OFF FIRST!


HOW'D YOU LIKE THAT BLAST?!
HAAAHAAHAAAA!!
HEE HEE.


Bombardier Beetle can release a toxic gas that is made of a combination of hydroquinone and hydrogen peroxide. The two chemicals are then sent into a reaction chamber within the Chimera Ant's body which secrets catalysts and peroxide causing a reaction that releases oxygen, generating enough heat to a boiling point. The heat then vaporizes a fifth chemical and is finally released causing a great explosion, incinerating its surroundings in a 100-degree celsius temperature.
A Bombardier Beetle's defense Mechanism.

ゴオオオ オ オオ

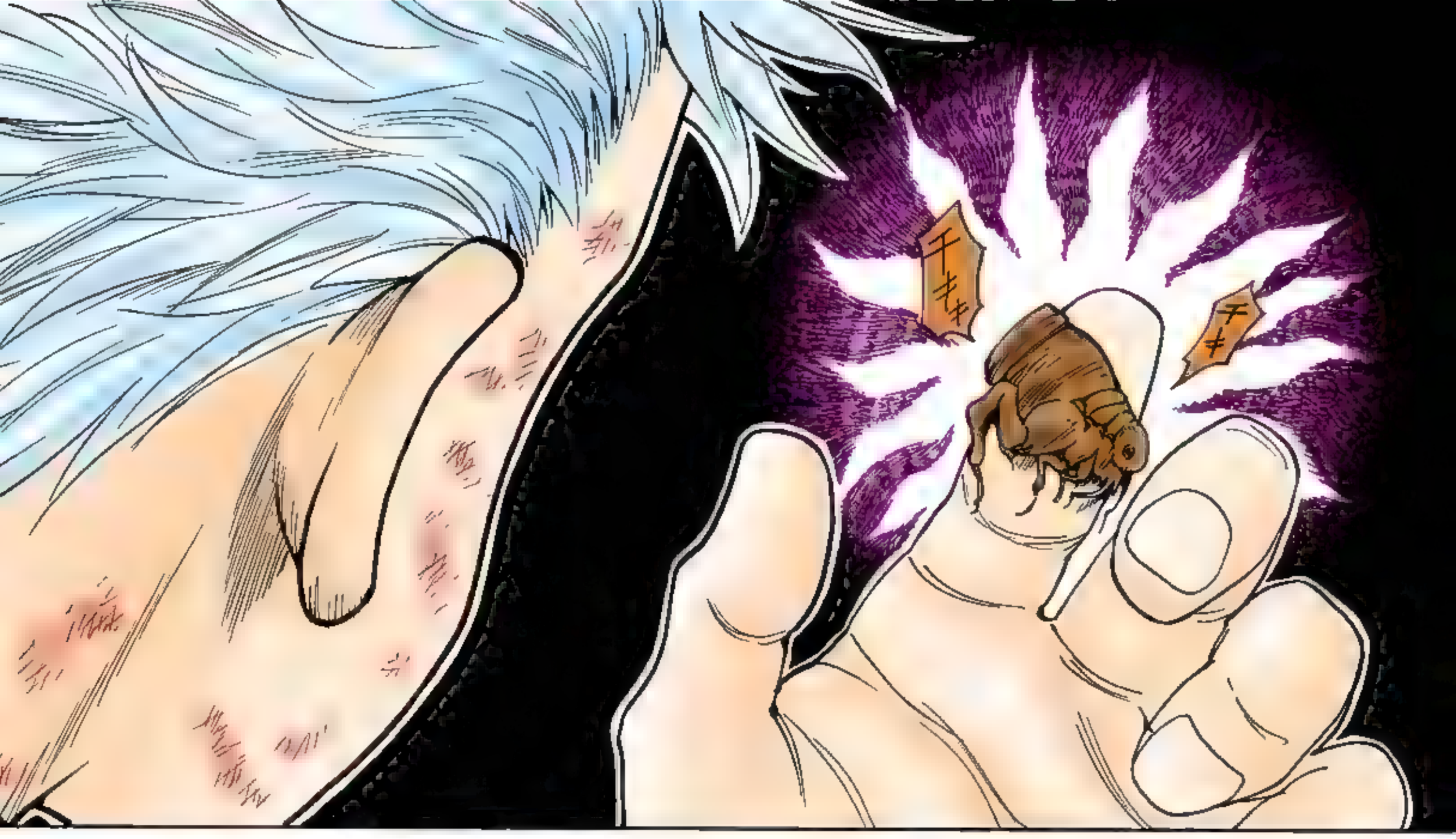
HE FARTED ON ME ...!!!
ブチ ブチ
BAS-TARD ...
BUT HE COUNTERED AT THE PERFECT TIME!!
NO... THERE'S A BIGGER PROBLEM!! I COMPLETELY CONCEALED MY PRESENCE, AND ATTACKED FROM HIS BLIND SPOT.
I'M ASSUMING HE HAS AN ABILITY THAT LETS HIM PINPOINT MY LOCATION.
HE'S PROBABLY WATCHING RIGHT NOW!!
THEN...
SOMEONE MUST BE INSTRUCTING HIM FROM A DISTANCE!!
IT MUST BE HIM...!!
...I CAN'T SHOW HIM THE CARDS IN MY HAND!!
NO MATTER WHAT...

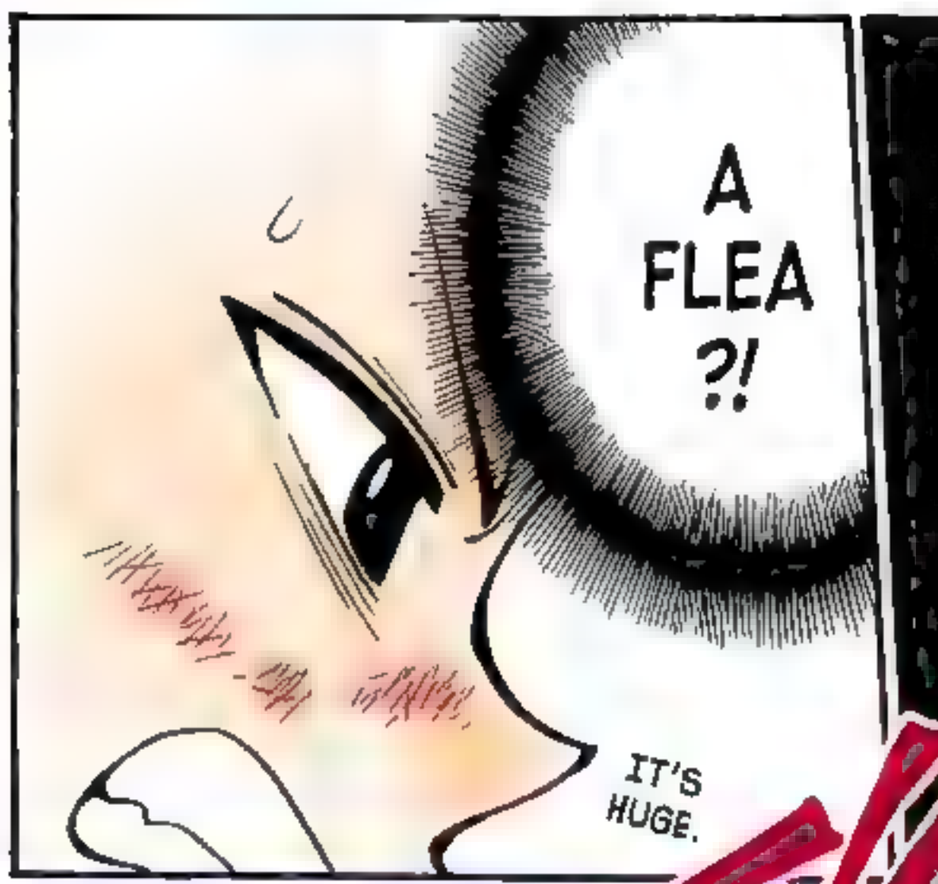
I'LL HAVE TO DEFEAT THEM ALL WITHOUT USING MY HANDS-

THE IDEAL SCENARIO WOULD BE TO SHAKE THEM OFF AND GO BACK INTO HIDING. BUT THAT'S LOOKING IMPOSSIBLE.

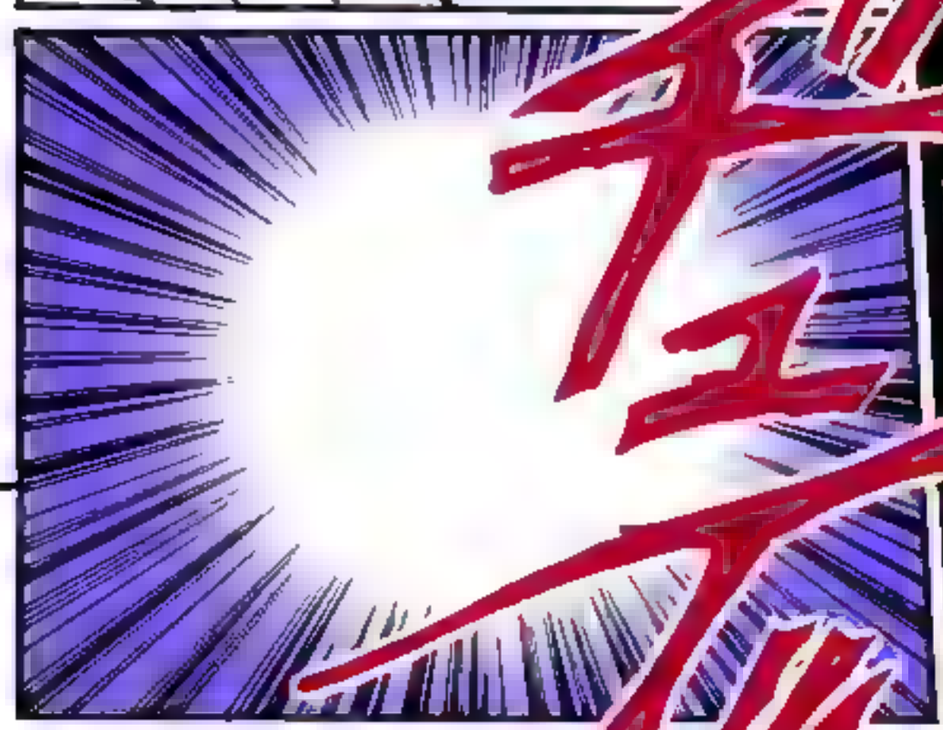
AND THEY CAN'T KNOW ABOUT MY YO-YO EITHER!!

THEY CAN'T KNOW ABOUT MY ELECTRO-SHOCK.

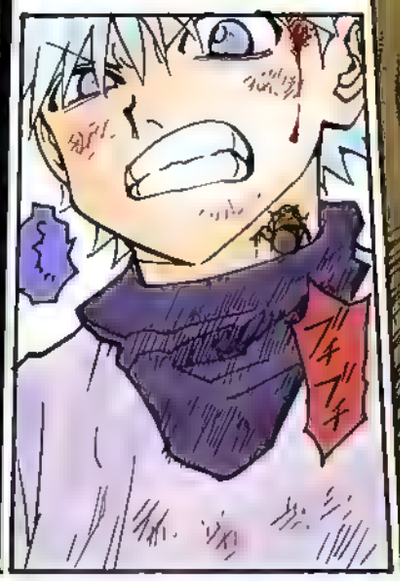

チキキ
チキ

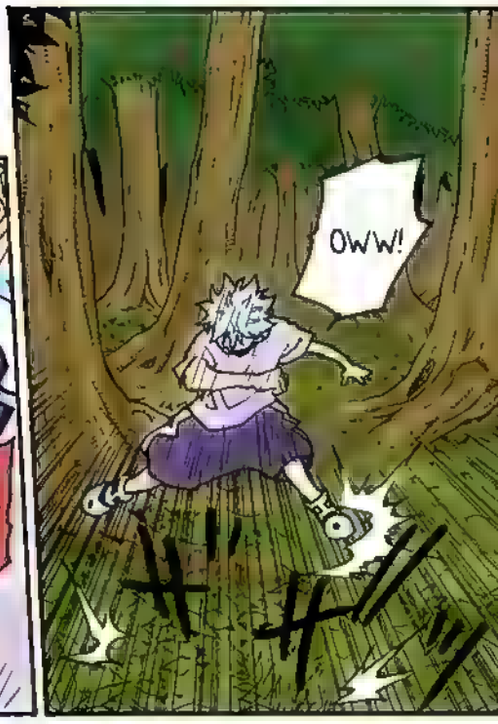

A FLEA ?!
IT'S HUGE.

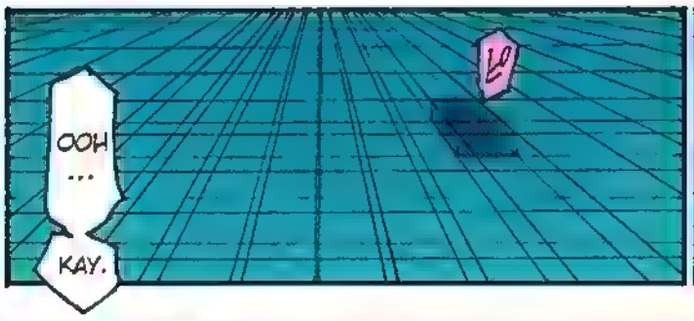
チキ

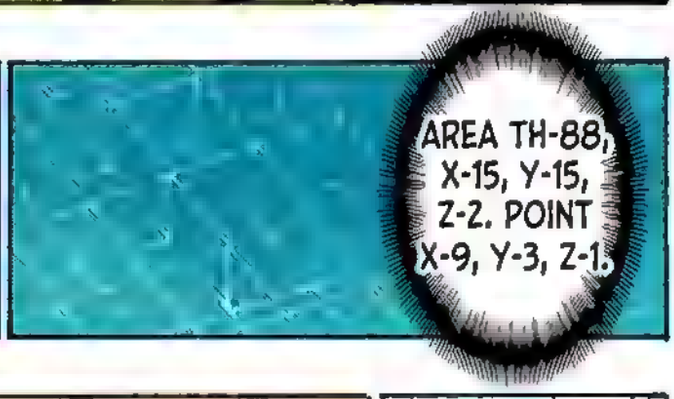

チキ

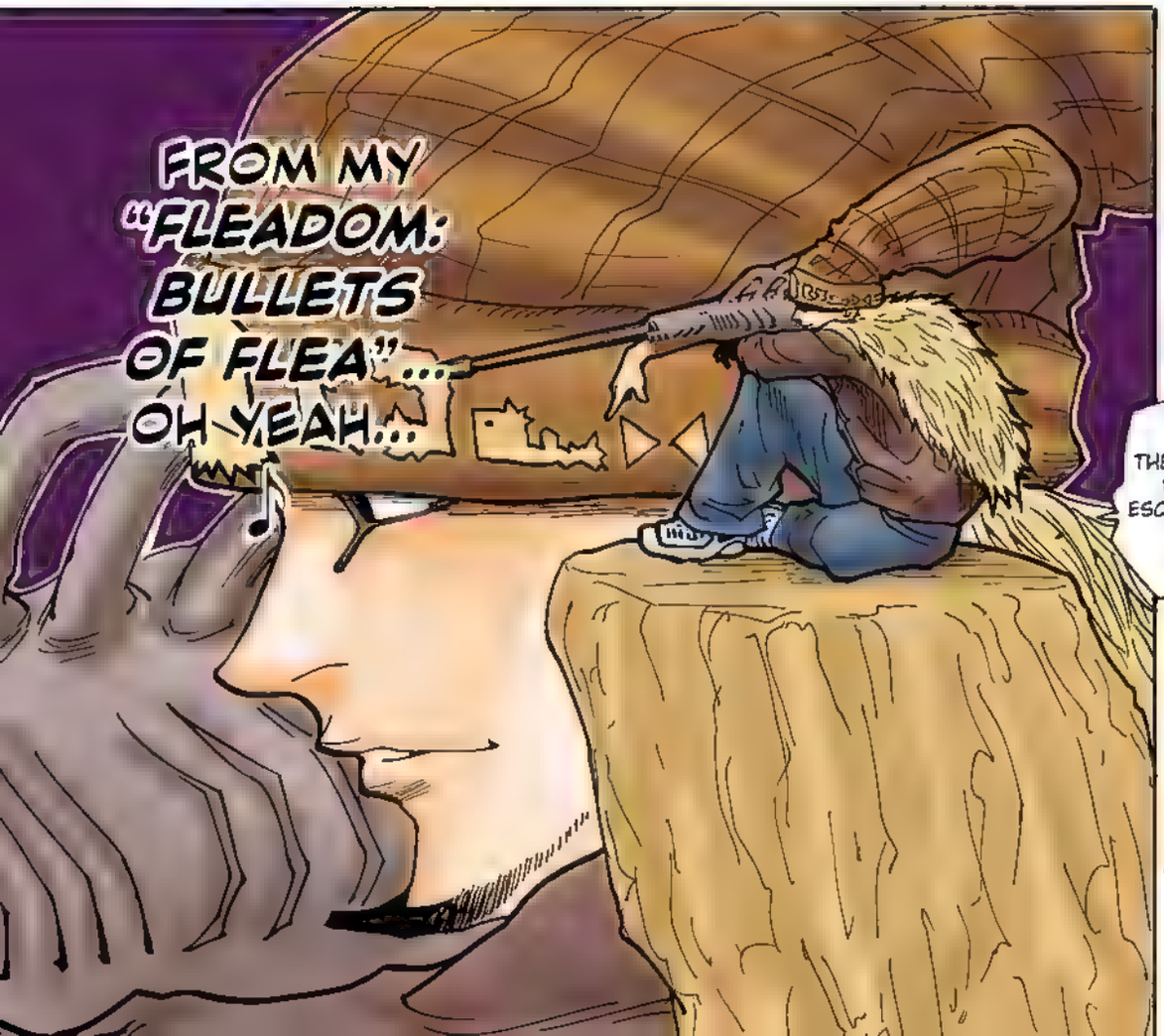
DAMN IT!
WHERE IS IT COMING FROM?!

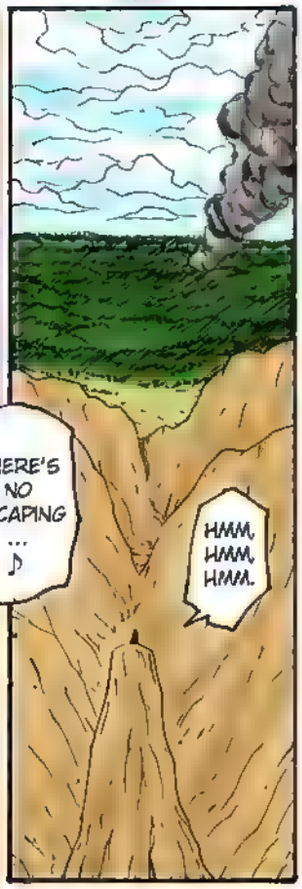

ブチブチ

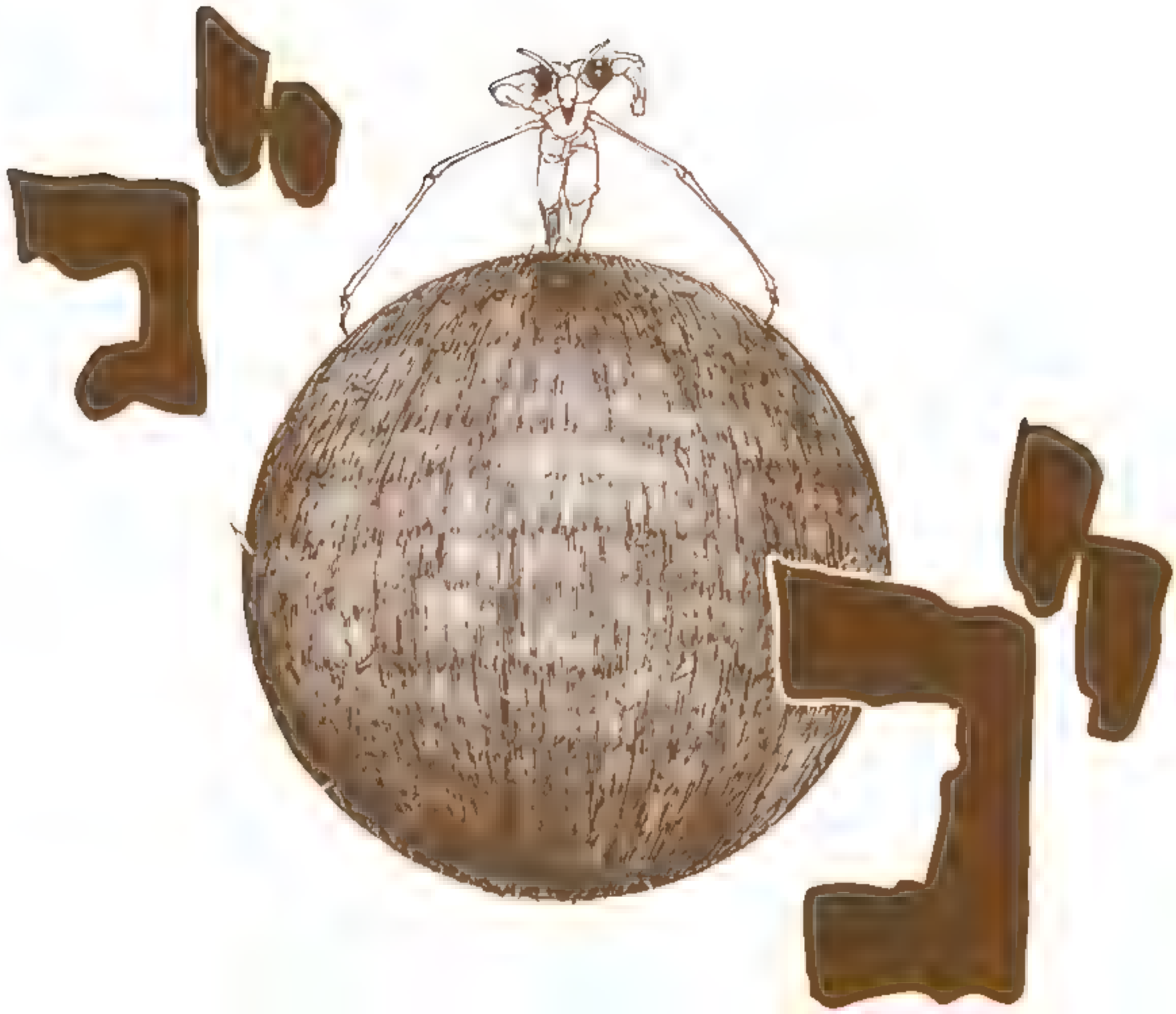

OWW!

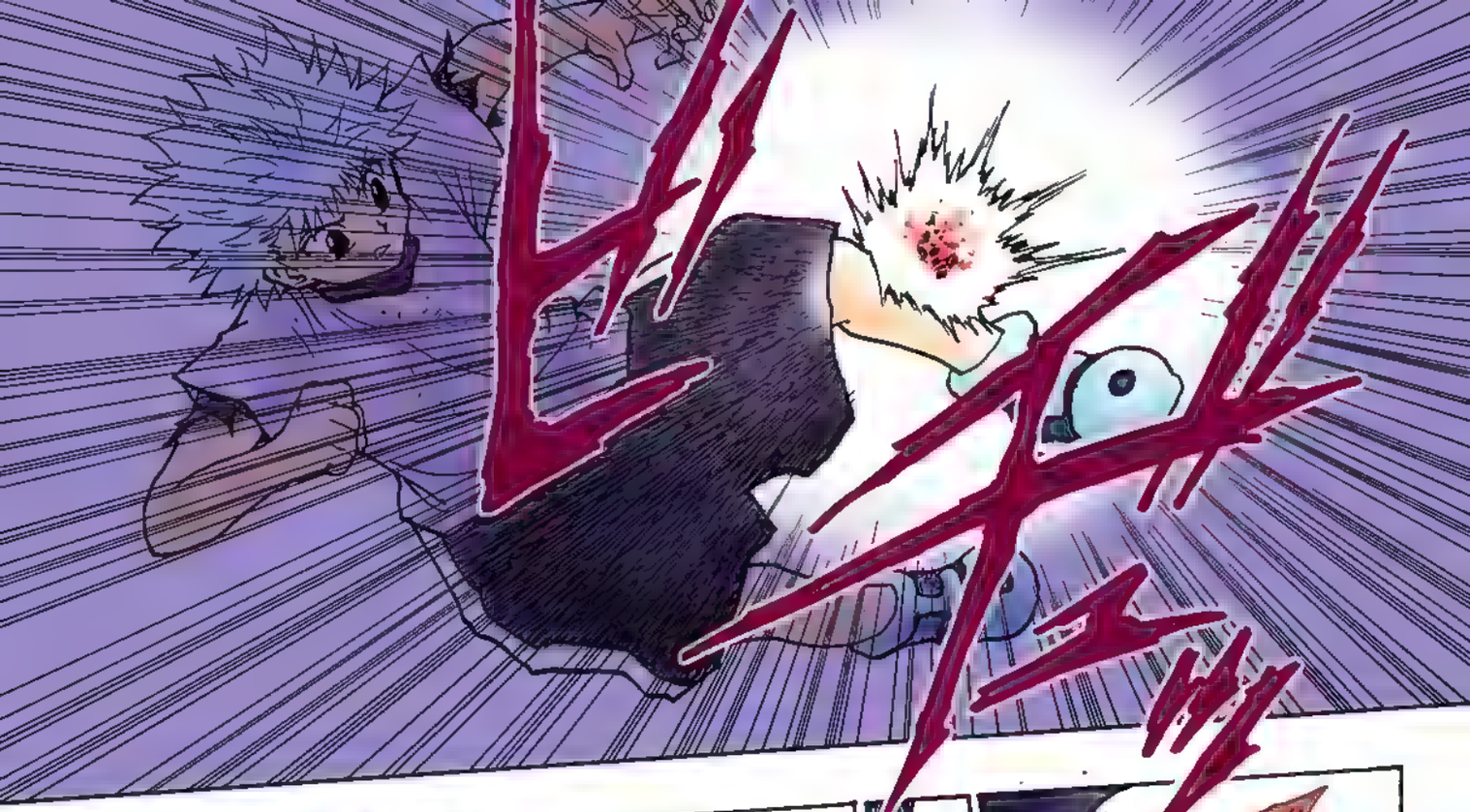

OOH ...
KAY.

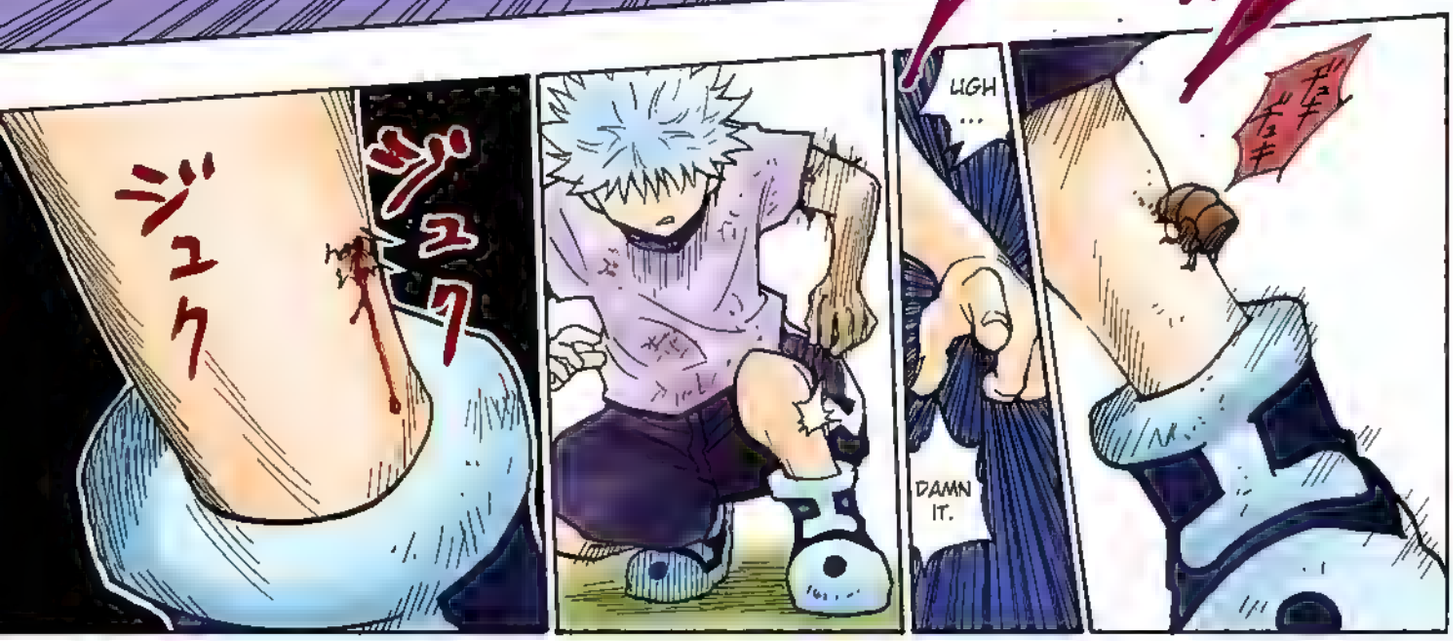

AREA TH-88, X-15, Y-15, Z-2. POINT X-9, Y-3, Z-1.

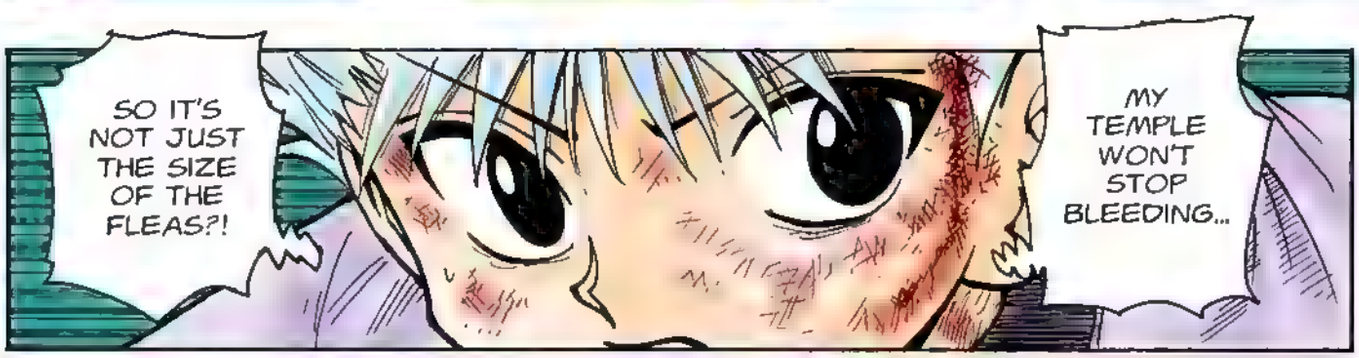

FROM MY "FLEADOM: BULLETS OF FLEA"... OH YEAH...
♪

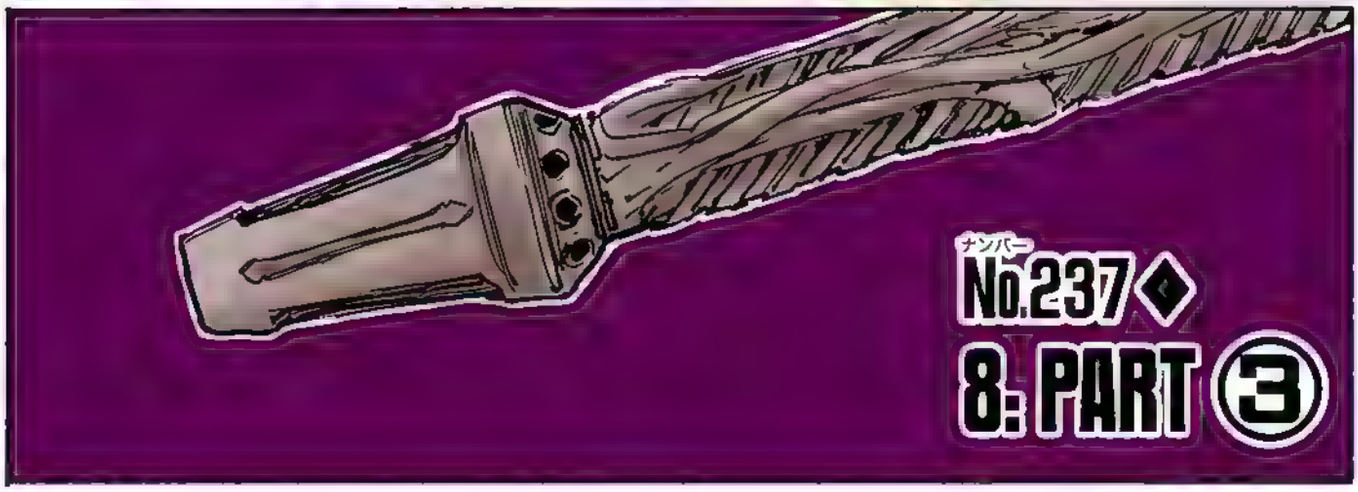

THERE'S NO ESCAPING ... ♪
HMM, HMM, HMM.









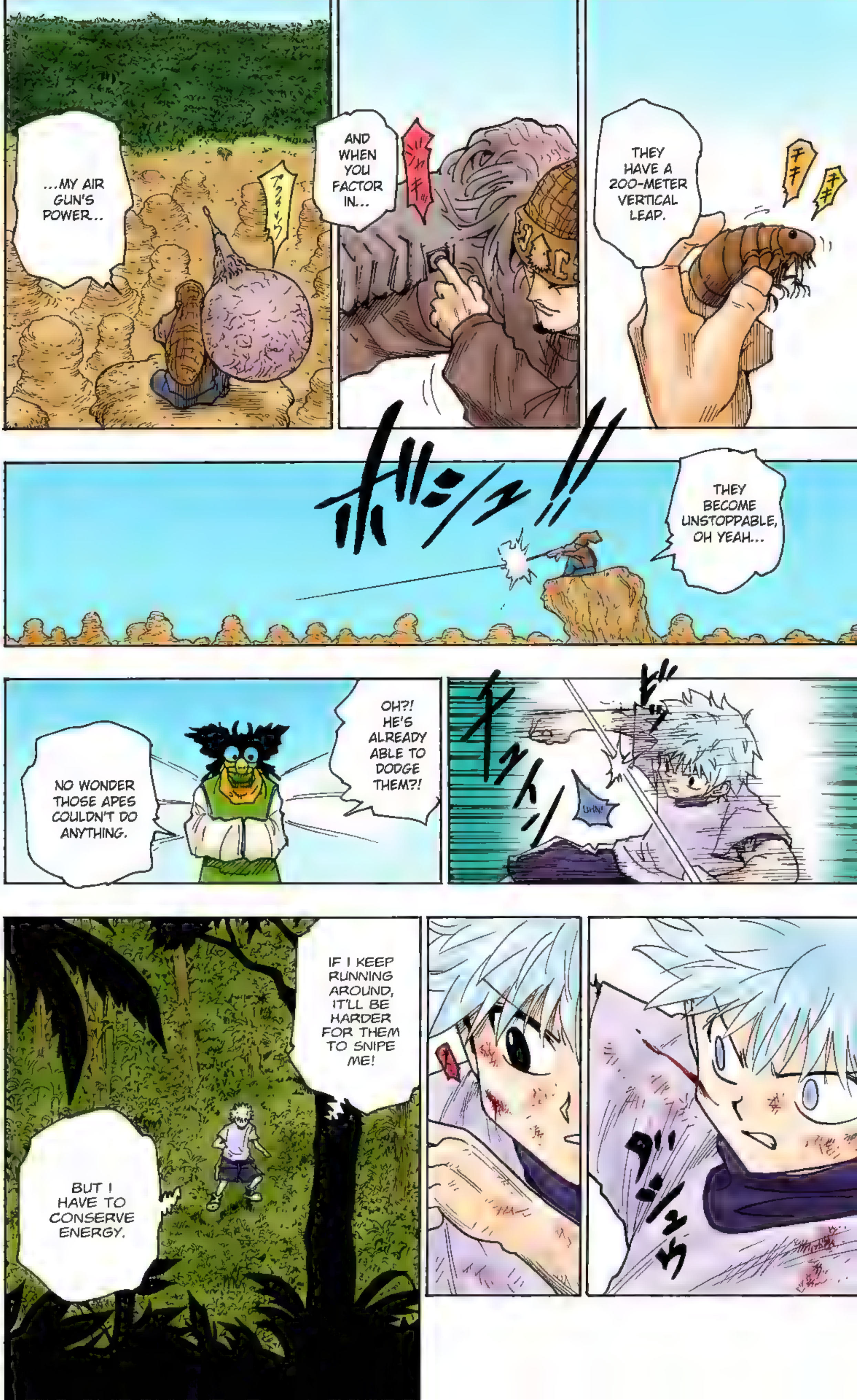


ナンバー
No.237 ◆

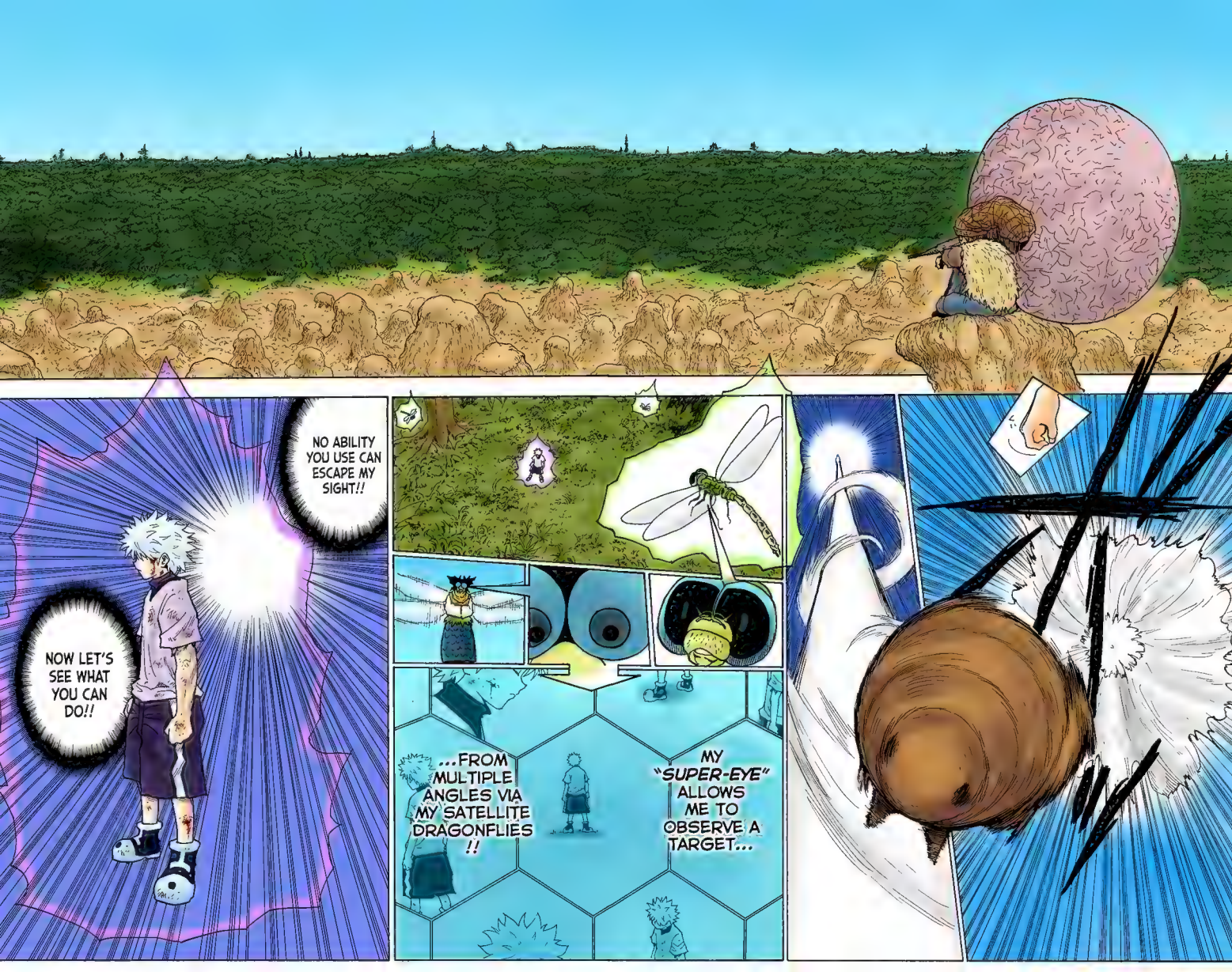
8: PART ③

OOH...
...KAY.
AREA PQ, Y-7, X-8, Z-4. POINT Y-5, X-3, Z-1.
SWOOO

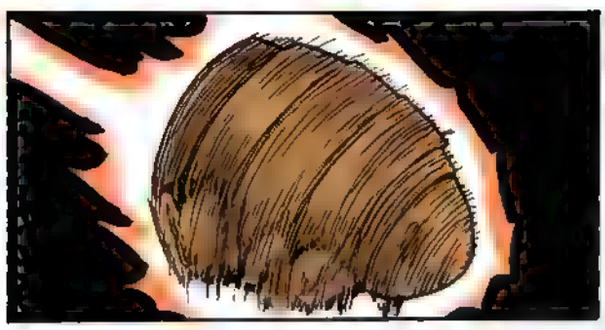
ドン
ドン
ドン
...EXHAUST MY STRENGTH THROUGH BLOOD LOSS!!
THE SNIPER ISN'T TRYING TO DEAL SERIOUS DAMAGE...!! SO HIS GOAL IS TO...
MY FLEAS ARE VERY SPECIAL...
プチ
HUMM, HMM. ♪♪

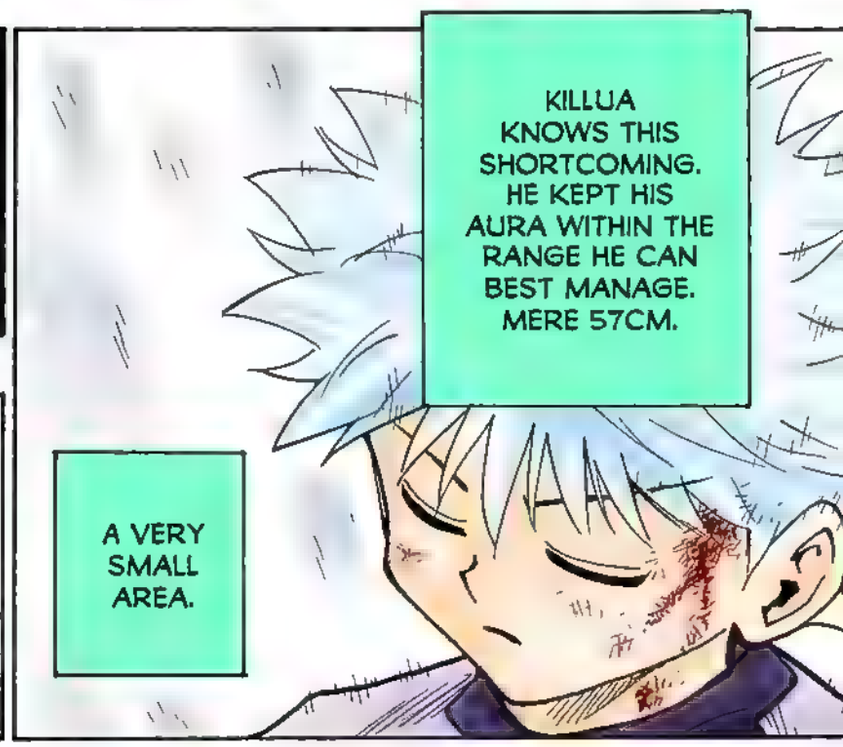

...MY AIR GUN'S POWER..
AND WHEN YOU FACTOR IN...
THEY HAVE A 200-METER VERTICAL LEAP.
THEY BECOME UNSTOPPABLE, OH YEAH...
NO WONDER THOSE APES COULDN'T DO ANYTHING.
OH?! HE'S ALREADY ABLE TO DODGE THEM?!
UHN!
IF I KEEP RUNNING AROUND, IT'LL BE HARDER FOR THEM TO SNIPE ME!
BUT I HAVE TO CONSERVE ENERGY.

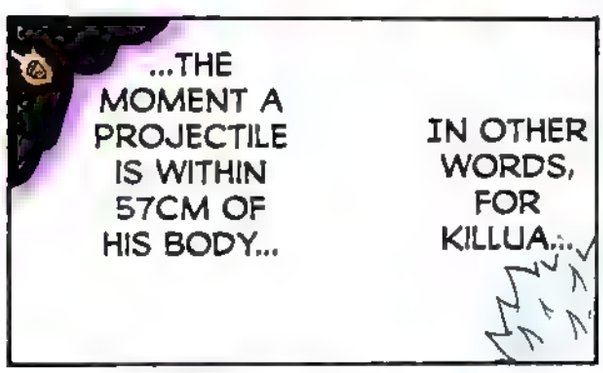
LET'S SEE WHAT HE CAN DO.
HMM...
HE MAY TRY TO USE HIS ABILITY.
HE'S GOING TO TRY SOME-THING.
OH.
OOH...
...KAY.


NO ABILITY YOU USE CAN ESCAPE MY SIGHT!!
NOW LET'S SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO!!
...FROM MULTIPLE ANGLES VIA MY SATELLITE DRAGONFLIES !!
MY "SUPER-EYE" ALLOWS ME TO OBSERVE A TARGET...

KILLUA KNOWS THIS SHORTCOMING. HE KEPT HIS AURA WITHIN THE RANGE HE CAN BEST MANAGE. MERE 57CM.
KILLUA CANNOT USE "EN" ("En" is when one extends their aura further than normal to contain and give shape to that aura, normally a sphere).

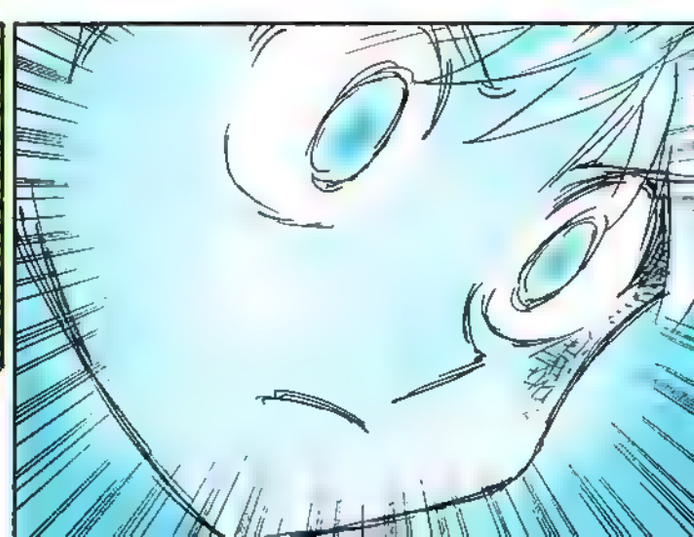



KILLUA KNOWS THIS SHORTCOMING. HE KEPT HIS AURA WITHIN THE RANGE HE CAN BEST MANAGE. MERE 57CM.
A VERY SMALL AREA.


...THE MOMENT A PROJECTILE IS WITHIN 57CM OF HIS BODY...
IN OTHER WORDS, FOR KILLUA...

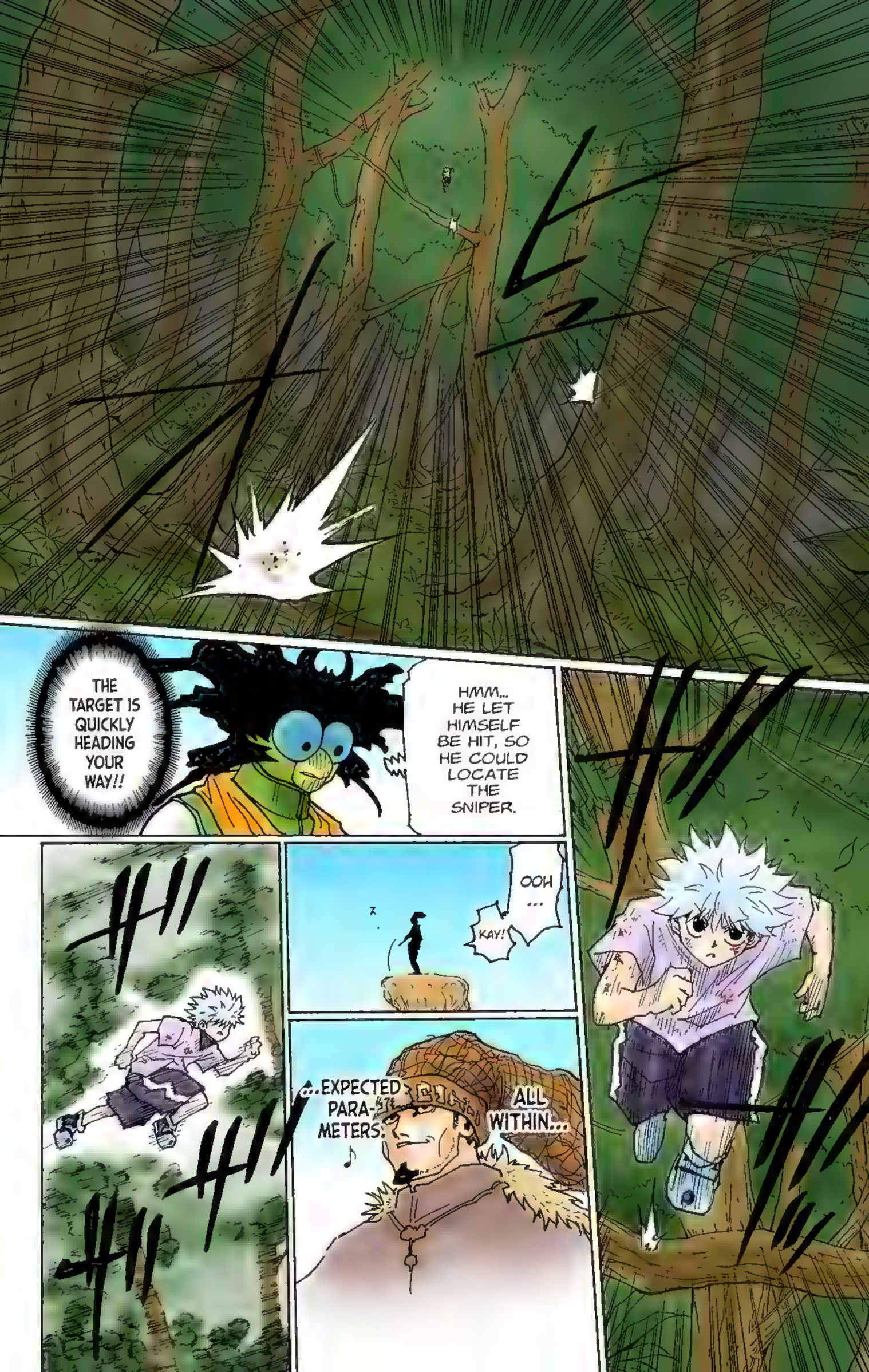
...AND DODGE AT POINT-BLANK RAGE!!
...HE MUST RELY ON HIS INCREDIBLE REFLEXES AND PHYSICAL STRENGTH TO REACT WITH DESPERATE SPEED...

HOWEVER!!!



...HE DIDN'T DODGE IT!!!

THIS TIME...


THE TARGET IS QUICKLY HEADING YOUR WAY!!
HMM... HE LET HIMSELF BE HIT, SO HE COULD LOCATE THE SNIPER.
OOH ...
KAY!
...EXPECTED PARA-METERS.
ALL WITHIN...

IF I START BLEEDING IN TOO MANY PLACES, I'LL BE IN TROUBLE.

I WON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!!

.....

THE BLEEDING STOPPED WHERE THE FLEAS ONLY GRAZED ME.

THEY MUST SECRETE SOME ANTICOA-GULANTS.

THERE HE IS!!

THIS IS A TRAP. ♪
HEEHEE, DO YOU STILL...
...WANNA COME IN?

ボリボリ
NO HESITATION AT ALL!! I'M IMPRESSED...
HE INSTANTLY ACTED TO KILL ME...
ぐるん
I COULDN'T CARE LESS.
ARGHHH
DIE.
ボロ

AN UNDER-GROUND LAKE!!
WANT TO SEE HELL?
ドボォォォン
HERE YOU GO. ♪

No.238 ◆ 8: PART ④
ボッ
ボッ
ゴボ
ゴボ
BLOOD !!!
FOOD !!!

WAIT, THIS IS...
HM?
IT'S CAPTAIN IKALGO'S HOST!!
DAMN IT, STOP EATING IT!!
THE BLOOD IS CALLING US...!!
I WANT TO STOP... BUT I CAN'T!!!

THE GREAT IKALGO'S PRECIOUS ARMS...!!

HOW DARE YOU CHOP OFF...

BAS-TARD...

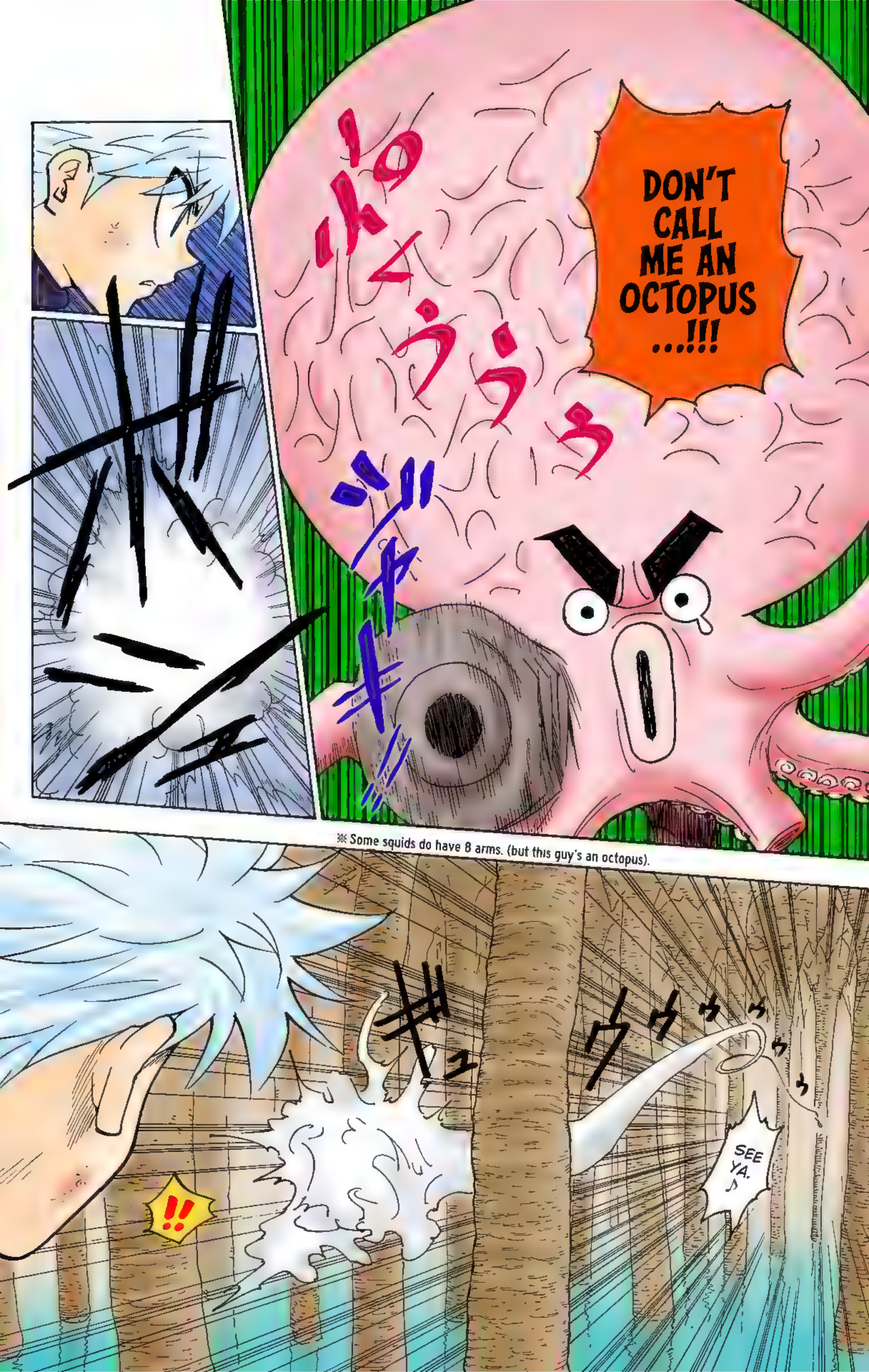
THESE SUCTION CUPS SAVED ME.

ISN'T IT "IKA-SQUID"?

I COULDN'T LET YOU DRAG ME DOWN INTO THE WATER.

YOU'VE GOT 8 ARMS.

ANYWAYS, AREN'T YOU AN OCTOPUS?



※ Some squids do have 8 arms. (but this guy's an octopus).

I'LL LET THE ORTHO SIBLINGS TAKE IT FROM HERE.

I NEED TO FIND A NEW HOST, OR I CAN'T RAISE MORE BULLETS...!

!!

UH.

SO WE HAVE. LONG TIME, NO SEE. ♪

YA KNOW? HA HA HA...

SO WE MEET AGAIN, HUH?

バシャ

バシャ

.....

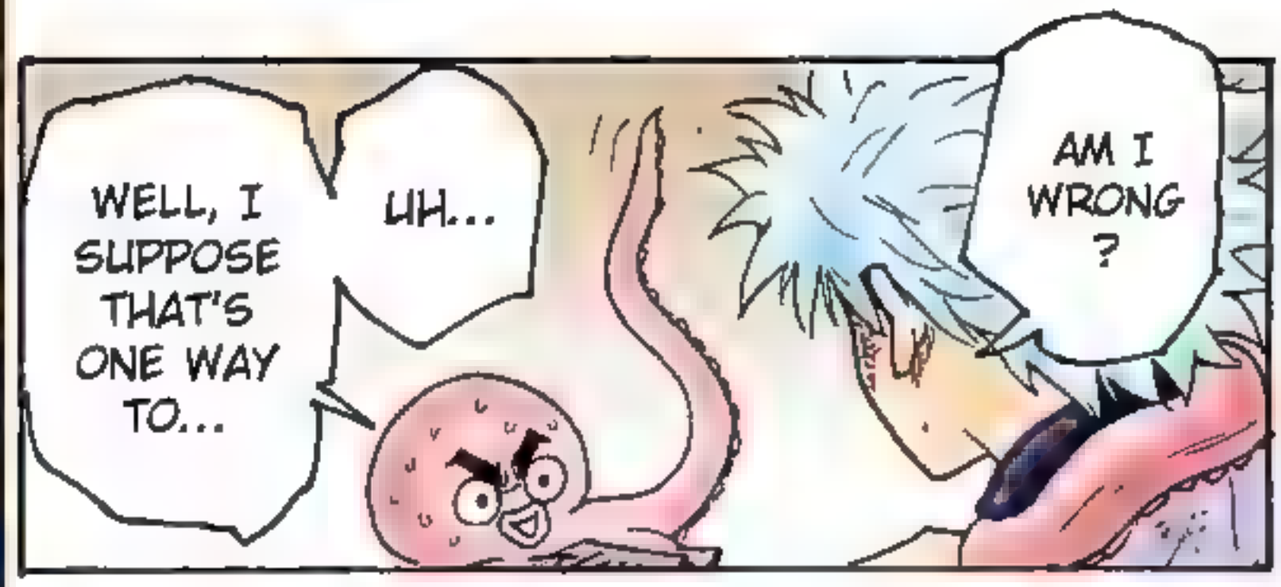
.....

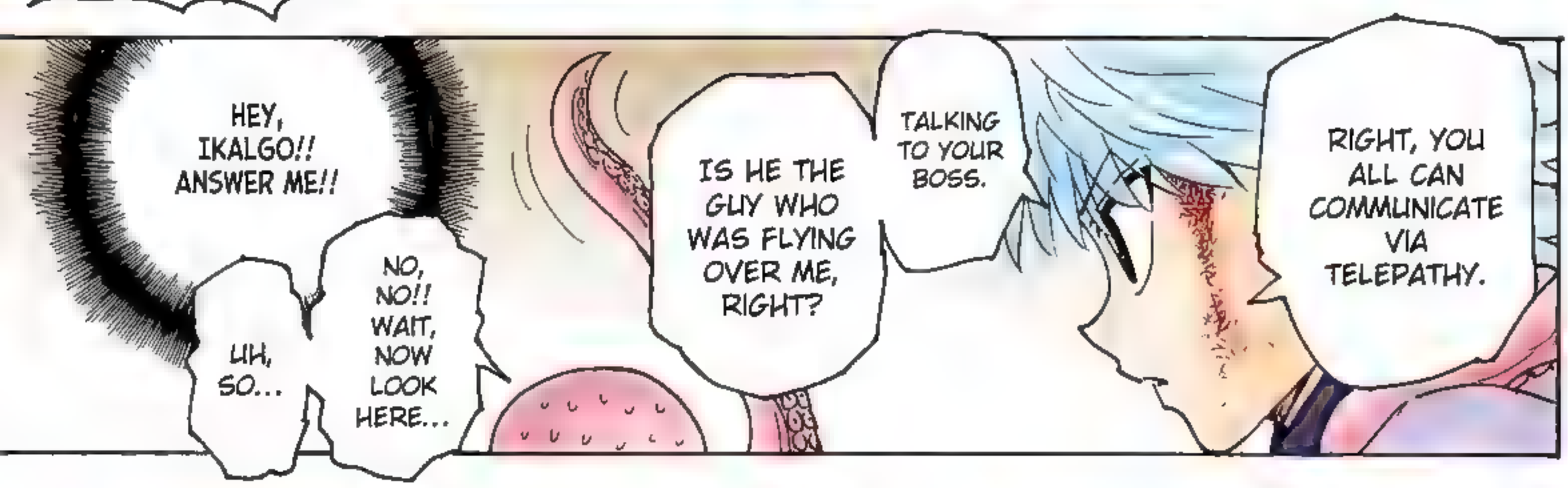
WELL, UM...
EH...
DON'T TELL ME YOU CAN'T SWIM, RIGHT?
WOULDN'T YOU HAVE A BETTER ADVANTAGE IN THE WATER?
IT'S THE BLOOD, ISN'T IT?
YES, YES! SURE, GO AHEAD. ♪
CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
WHY DIDN'T YOU DIVE UNDERWATER TO ESCAPE?
ポト
ポト
WHEN THEY SMELL BLOOD, YOUR BUDDIES IN THE WATER GO BERSERK AND ATTACK ANYTHING THAT'S INJURED!!
I REALIZED IT WHEN I SAW THOSE GUYS EAT YOUR SEVERED ARM WITHOUT THINKING TWICE.
WITH THOSE WOUNDS, IF YOU WENT IN THERE, YOU'D BE TORN TO SHREDS.

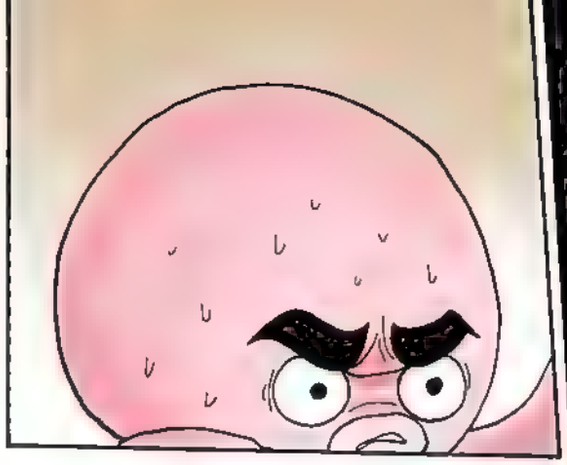
WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?

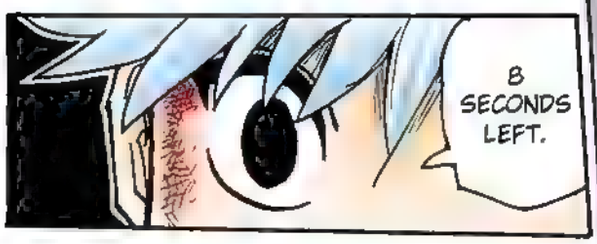
?

AAAAHH! I SCREWED UP...!!

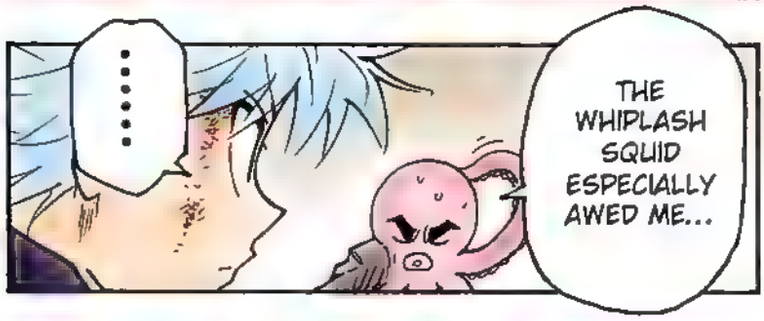


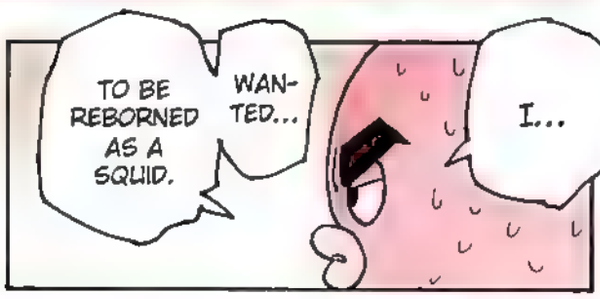


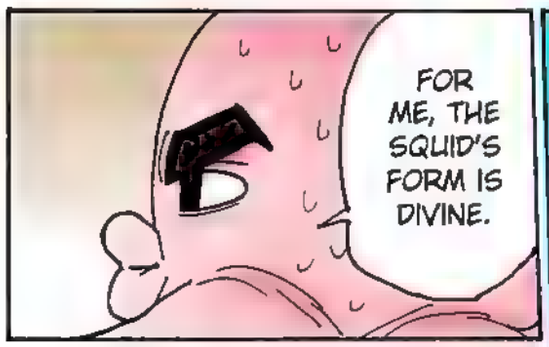


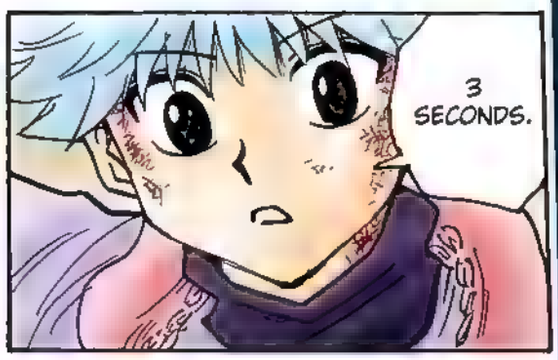

8 SECONDS LEFT.

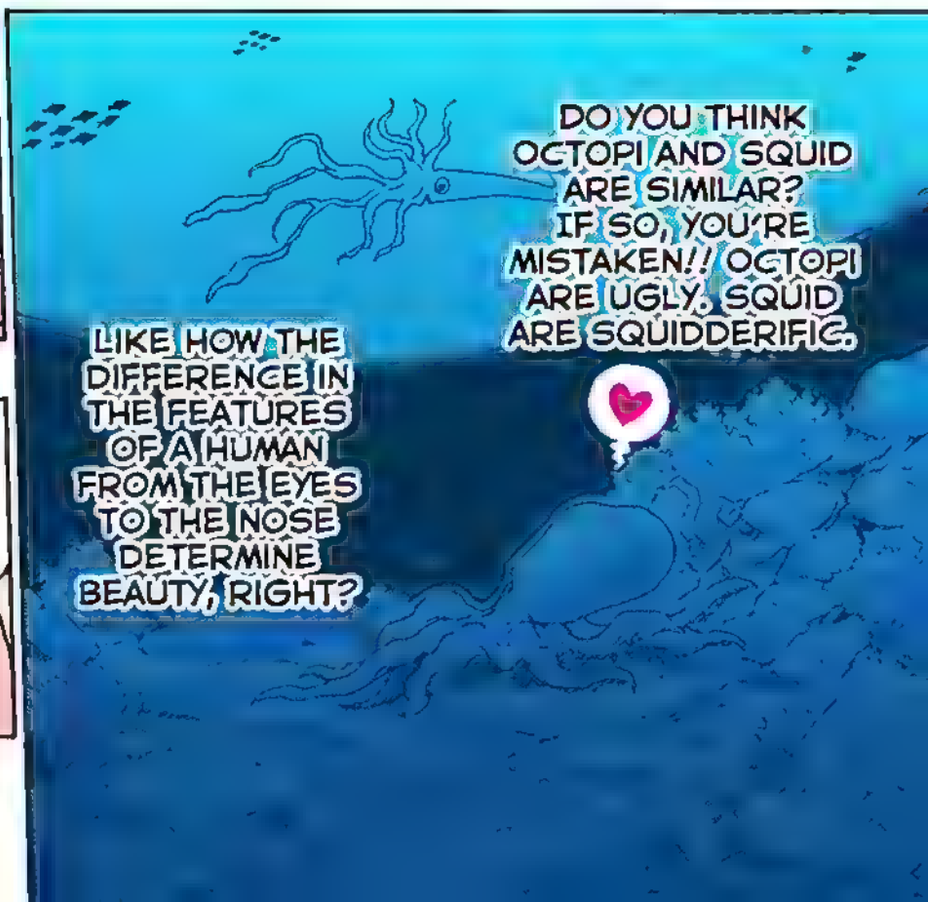
IF YOU TELL ME ABOUT HIS ABILITY, I'LL SPARE YOU.
YOU HAVE 10 SECONDS TO ANSWER.


.....
THE WHIPLASH SQUID ESPECIALLY AWED ME...


I...
TO BE REBORNED AS A SQUID.
WAN-TED...


FOR ME, THE SQUID'S FORM IS DIVINE.

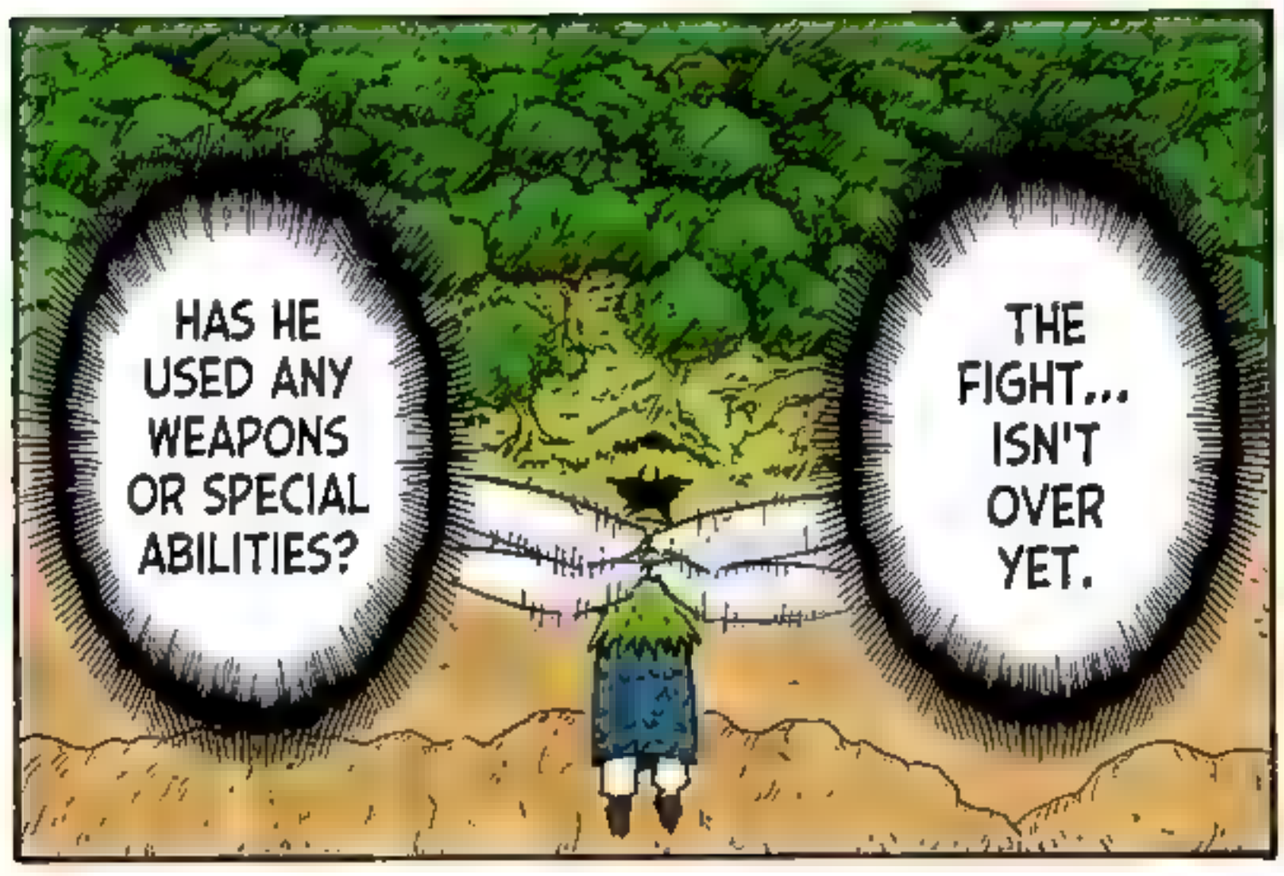

3 SECONDS.


DO YOU THINK OCTOPI AND SQUID ARE SIMILAR? IF SO, YOU'RE MISTAKEN!! OCTOPI ARE UGLY. SQUID ARE SQUIDDERIFIC.
LIKE HOW THE DIFFERENCE IN THE FEATURES OF A HUMAN FROM THE EYES TO THE NOSE DETERMINE BEAUTY, RIGHT?

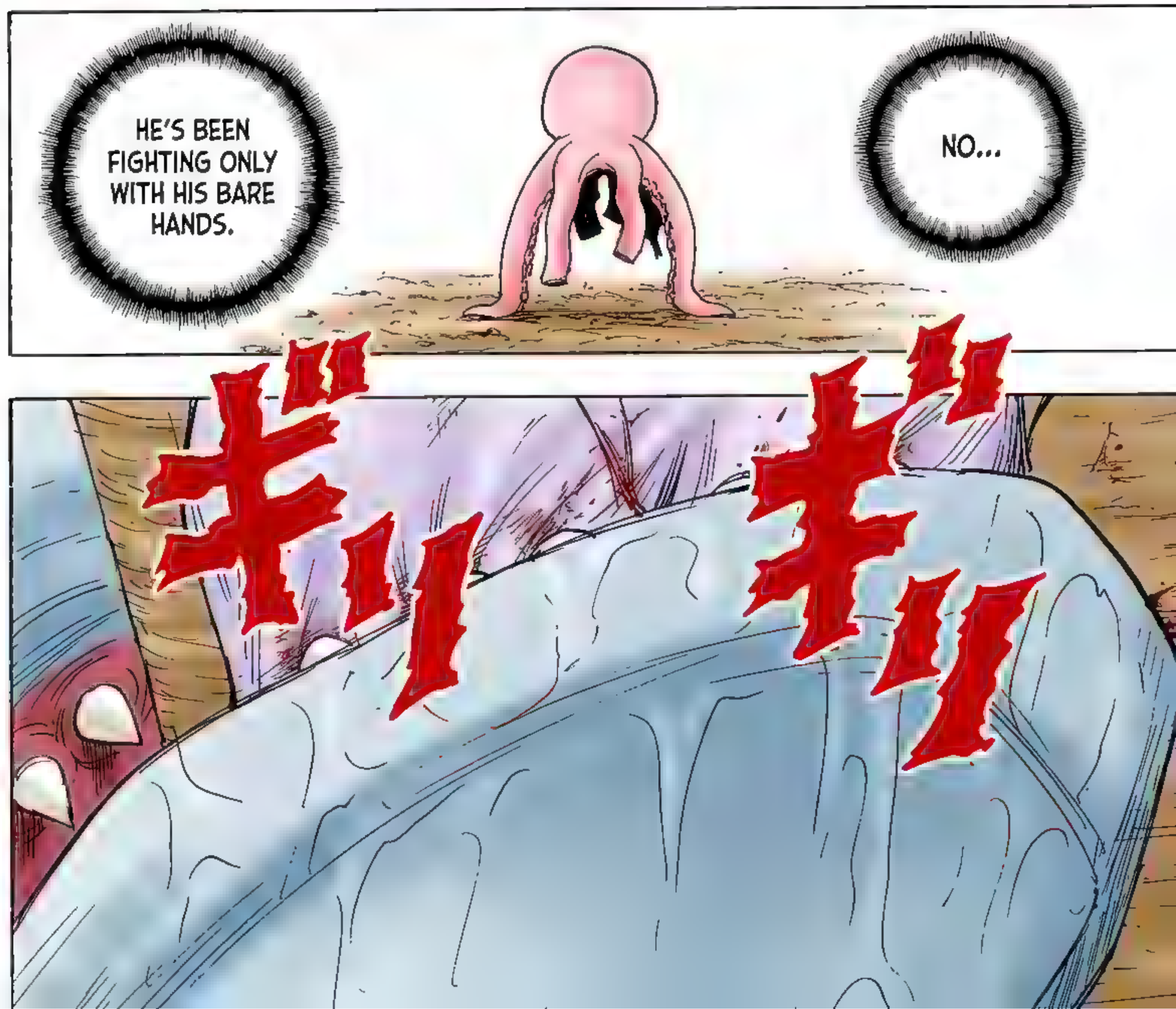
...ONE OF MY OWN...!!
I CAN'T SELL OUT...
...I COULD SEE THAT IN YOUR EYES.
YEAH...
...I'LL BE REBORN AS A SQUID... ♬
THAT IN MY NEXT LIFE...
I CAN ONLY HOPE... ♪
ドボォォォン!!

WHY?
WHA...
IF WE MET UNDER DIFFERENT CIRCUM-STANCES...
...MAYBE WE COULD'VE BEEN FRIENDS.
BECAUSE I THINK YOU'RE COOL.

AH...
.....
.....


HAS HE USED ANY WEAPONS OR SPECIAL ABILITIES?
THE FIGHT... ISN'T OVER YET.

Y-YES!!
COME IN, IKALGO!!


HE'S BEEN FIGHTING ONLY WITH HIS BARE HANDS.
NO...

HYAHA-HAHA! DID YOU LET YOUR GUARD DOWN?!

DIDN'T THINK A FISH COULD JUMP, EH?! HUH?!

COME ON, SCREAM! OTHERWISE, IT'S NO FUN!! HUH?!

EH?!

I'LL CRUSH YOU AND THE ROCK BEHIND YOU!!

OR ARE YOU IN TOO MUCH PAIN TO TALK?! EH?! COME ON!!

HUUH?!

HUH?!

HUH?!

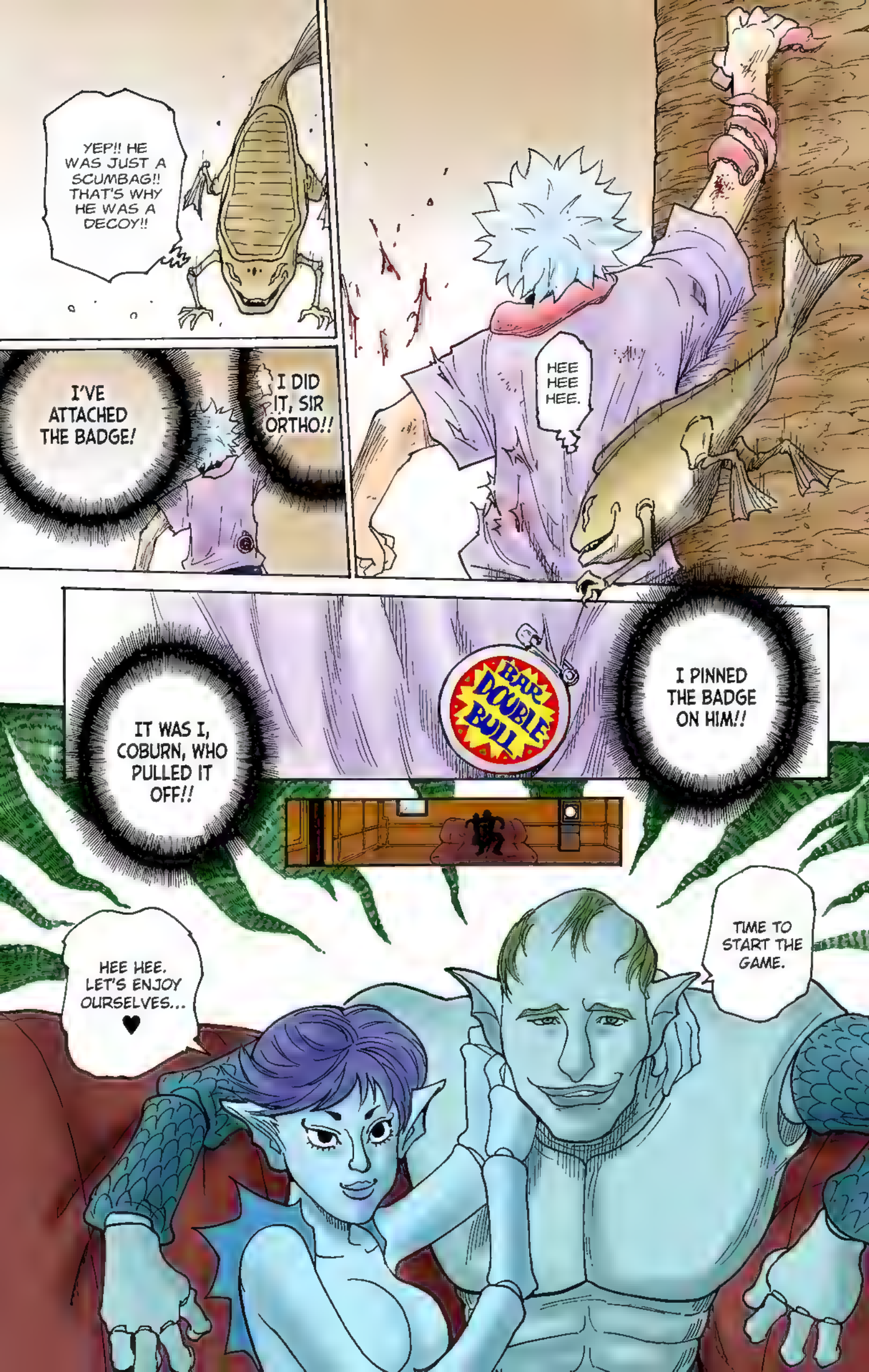
FIGHTING SCUMBAGS LIKE YOU IS A LOT EASIER.

...NO QUALMS ABOUT KILLING YOU.

I HAVE...

THIS IS MUCH BETTER.

AH...


YEP!! HE WAS JUST A SCUMBAG!! THAT'S WHY HE WAS A DECOY!!
I'VE ATTACHED THE BADGE!
I DID IT, SIR ORTHO!!
HEE HEE HEE.
IT WAS I, COBURN, WHO PULLED IT OFF!!
BAR DOUBLE BULL
I PINNED THE BADGE ON HIM!!
HEE HEE. LET'S ENJOY OURSELVES... ♥
TIME TO START THE GAME.

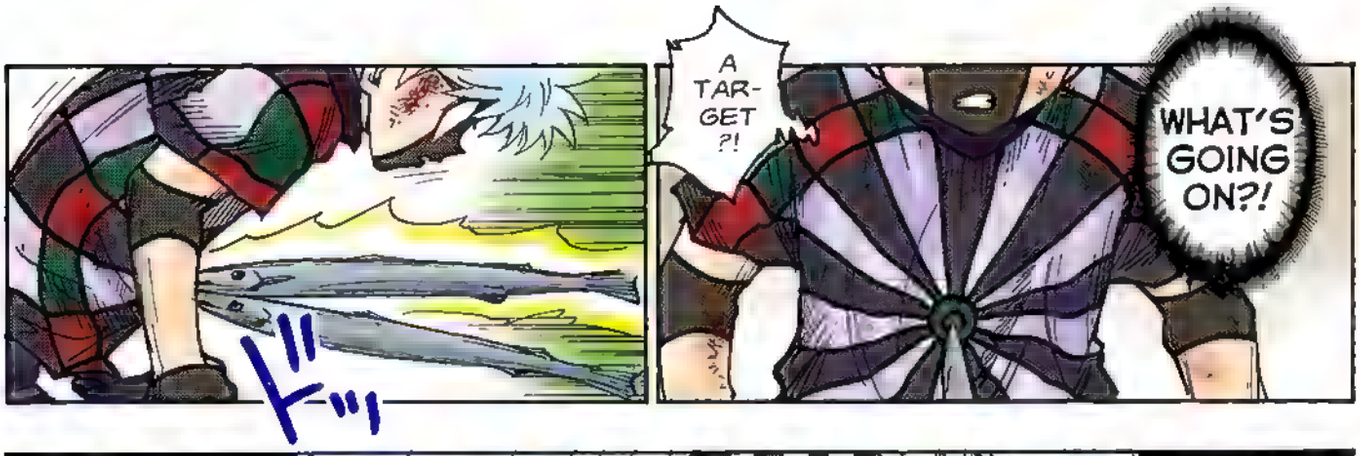
BAR
DOUBLE
BULL

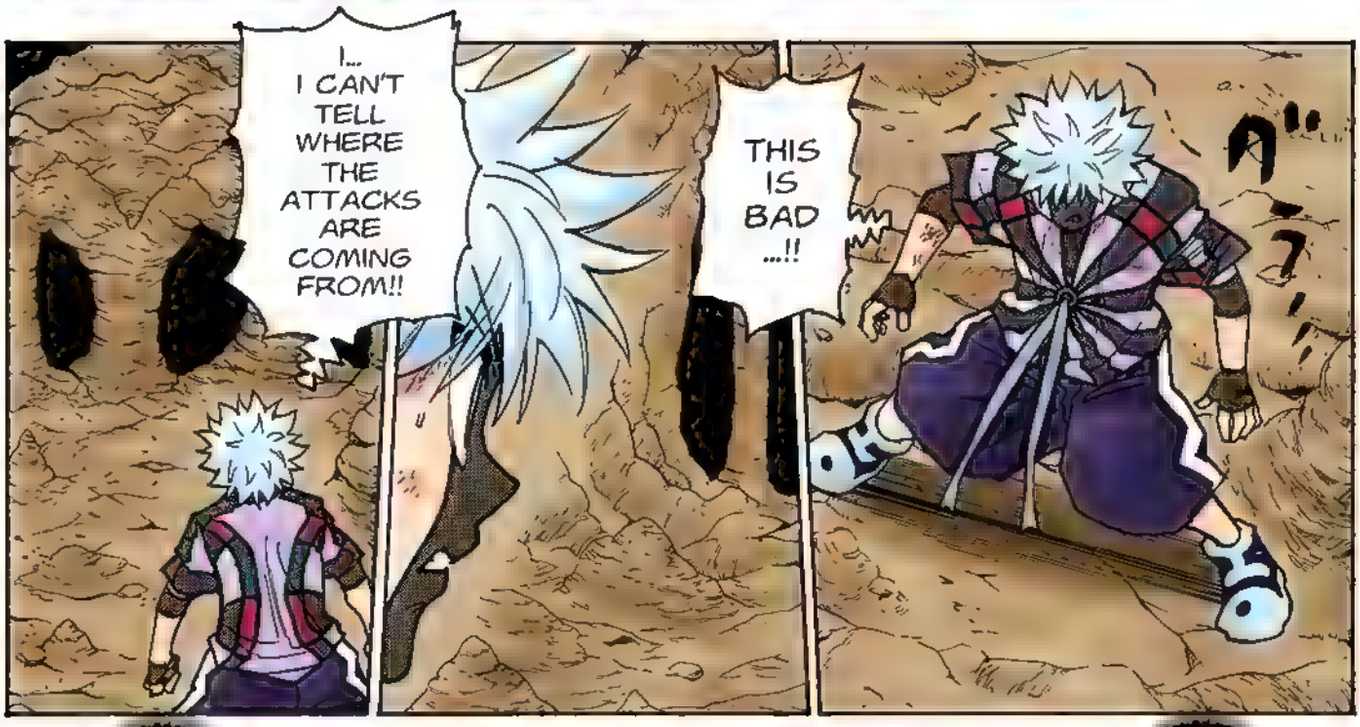
THE BLEEDING WON'T STOP.
DAMN IT.
I'LL NEED TO FIND AN EXIT...
FIRST...
A DIGITAL SOUND ...?!
INSIDE OF MY HEAD?!
DING A LING ♪
?
ナンバー
No.239
8: PART 5

ビビビ…
ドド
WHA-
ドドド
ドド

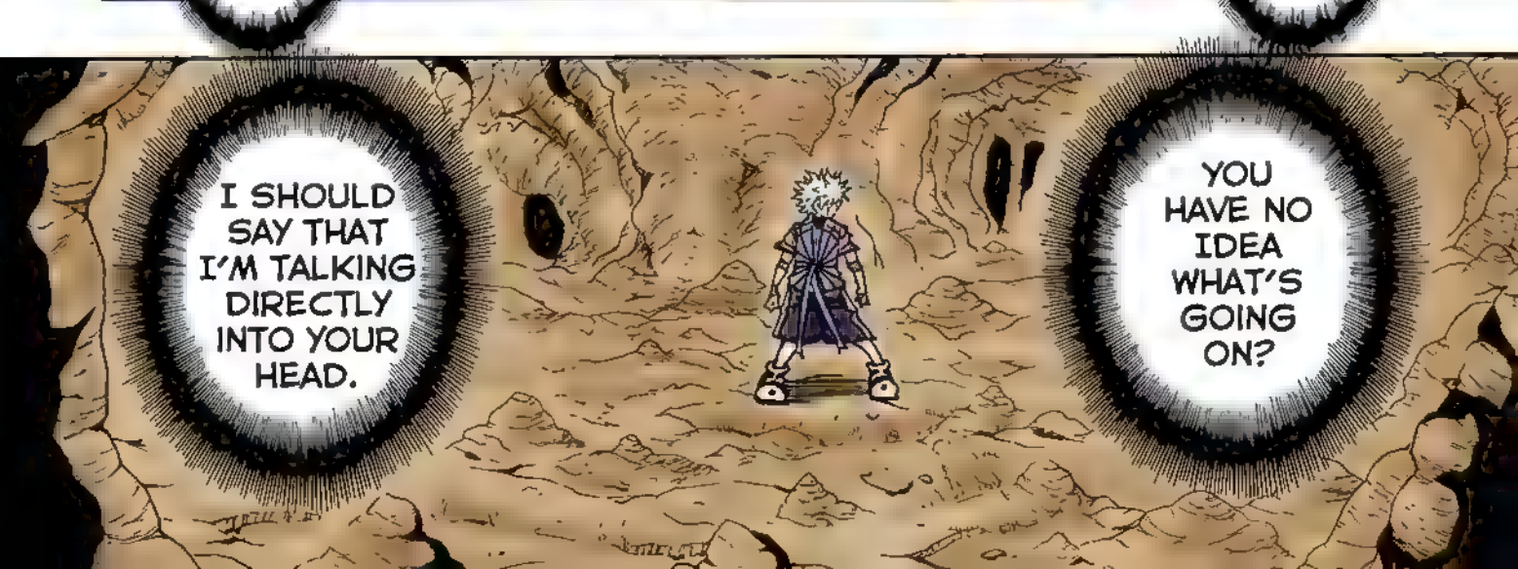
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!
WHAT IS THIS?!
WHAT THE?!!
A FISH ?!
BUT I'M NOT IN THE WATER !!
I DIDN'T SENSE...
...ANY KIND OF WARNING PRESENCE!!!
UH, GUH ...!!

ブシュ
GUH ...
I DIDN'T SENSE ANY AURA TILL THE FISH HIT ME!!
AGAIN!! I DIDN'T SEE ANY-THING!
ゴ
!!?
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ


A TAR-GET ?!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!

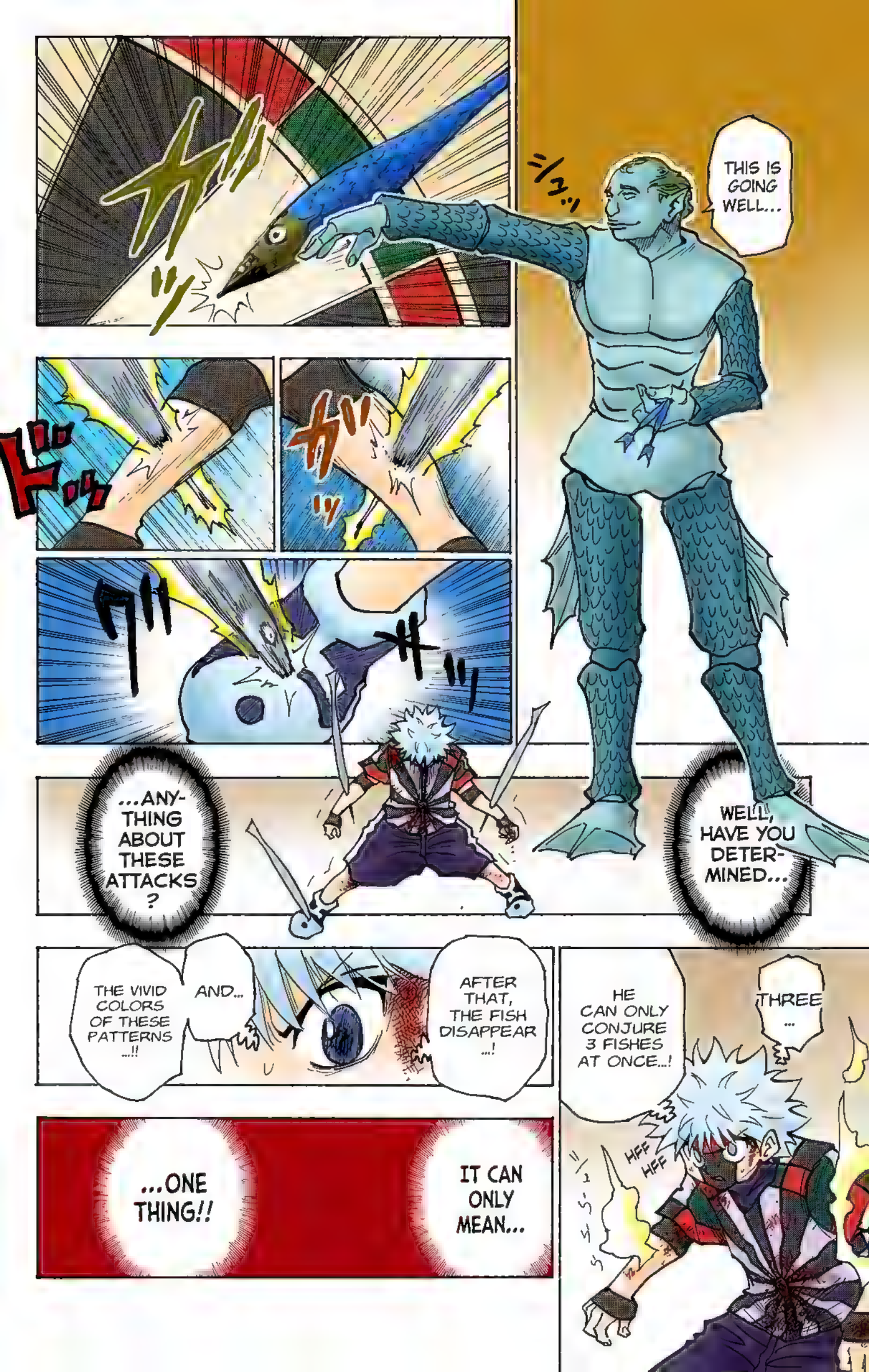

I... I CAN'T TELL WHERE THE ATTACKS ARE COMING FROM!!
THIS IS BAD ...!!

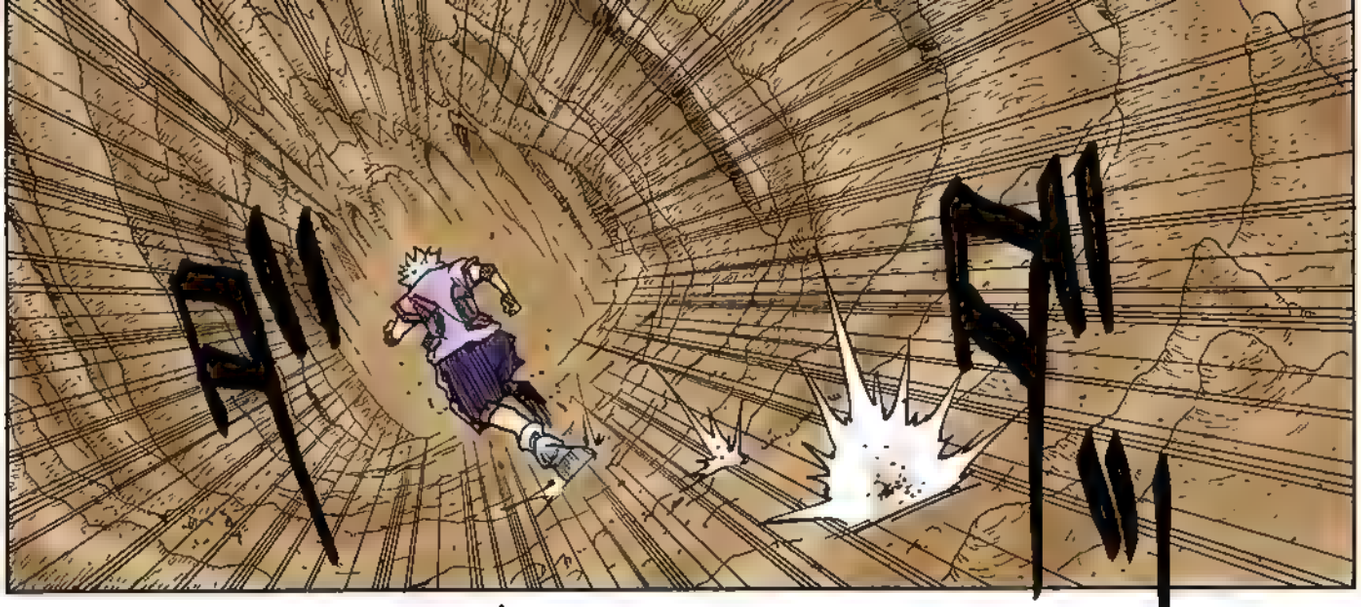
108 POINTS.
HEE HEE HEE.

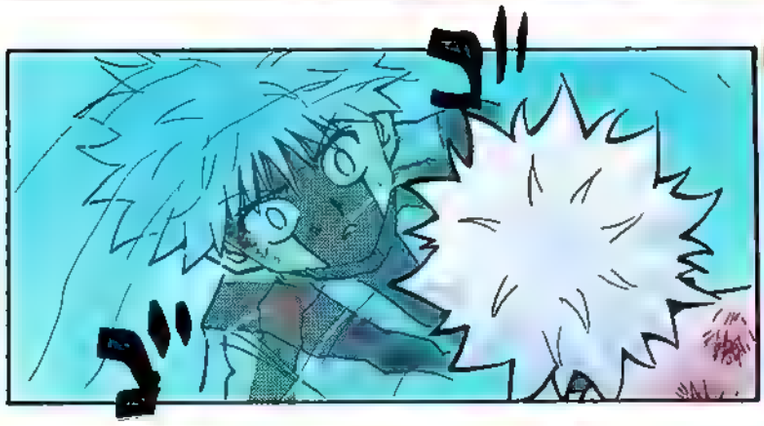

I SHOULD SAY THAT I'M TALKING DIRECTLY INTO YOUR HEAD.
YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON?

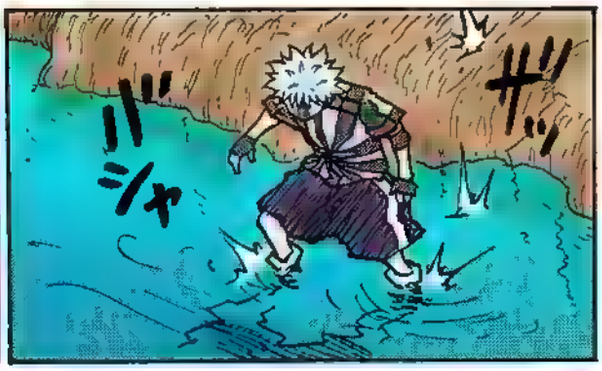
WELL... IF YOU SURVIVE, YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT SOON ENOUGH.
ジワ…
SO WHY CAN'T I SENSE THEM?!
THESE ARE FISH MADE FROM NEN!
THAT'S THE ONLY POSSIBLE EXPLA-NATION!!
SOMETHING MUST BE TRIGGERING THEM FROM NOWHERE ELSE!!
ドクッ!
ドクッ!
UNH ...

...I COULDN'T SEE OR FEEL THE ATTACK COMING!!
ドスッ
UNTIL THE MOMENT I GOT PIERCED...
ドッ
UGH!
ドッ
スッ!!
KUH!
ドッ!!


THIS IS GOING WELL...
WELL, HAVE YOU DETER-MINED...
...ANY-THING ABOUT THESE ATTACKS ?
THE VIVID COLORS OF THESE PATTERNS ...!!
AND...
AFTER THAT, THE FISH DISAPPEAR ...!
...ONE THING!!
IT CAN ONLY MEAN...
HE CAN ONLY CONJURE 3 FISHES AT ONCE...!
THREE ...
HFF HFF

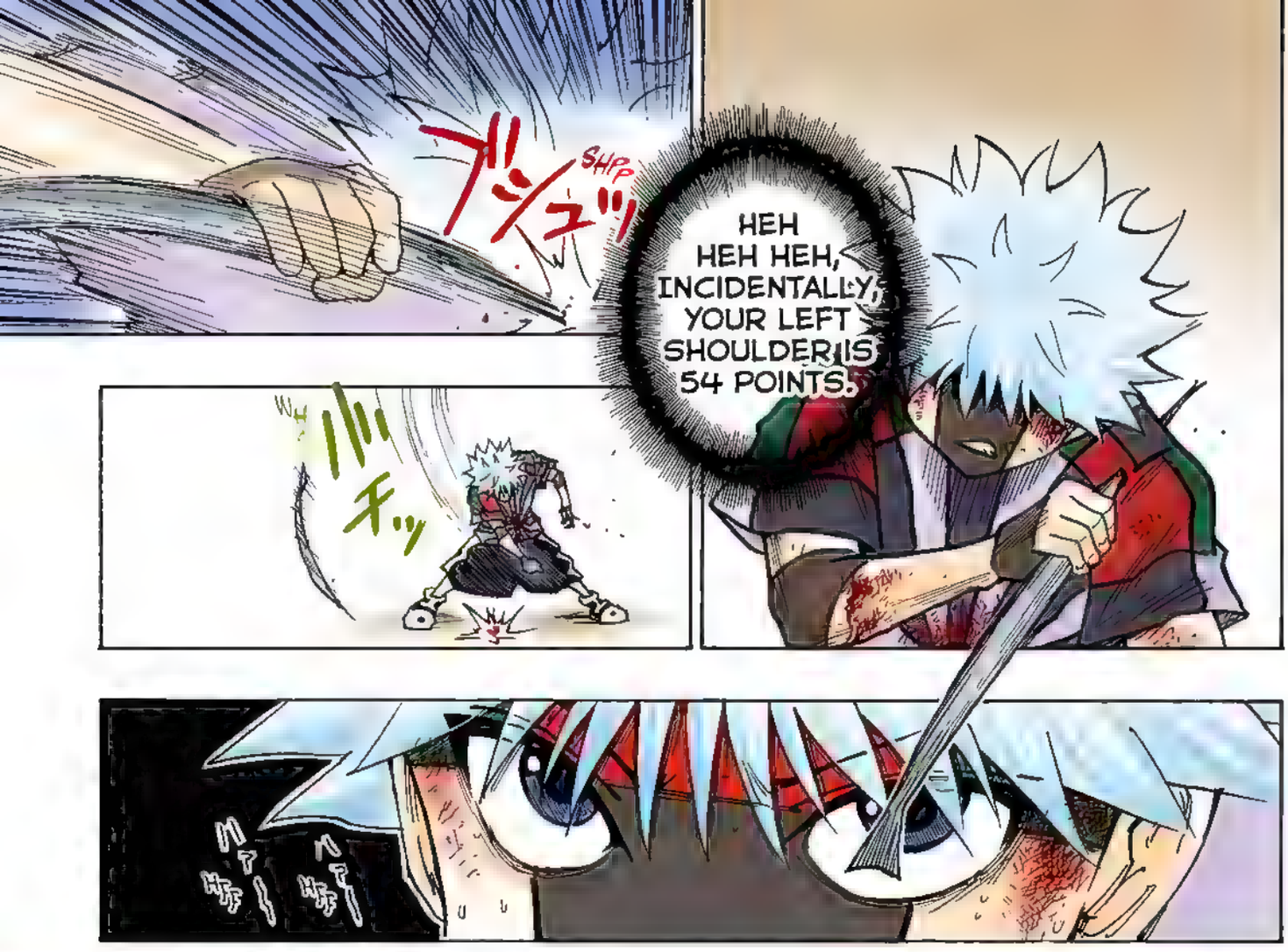


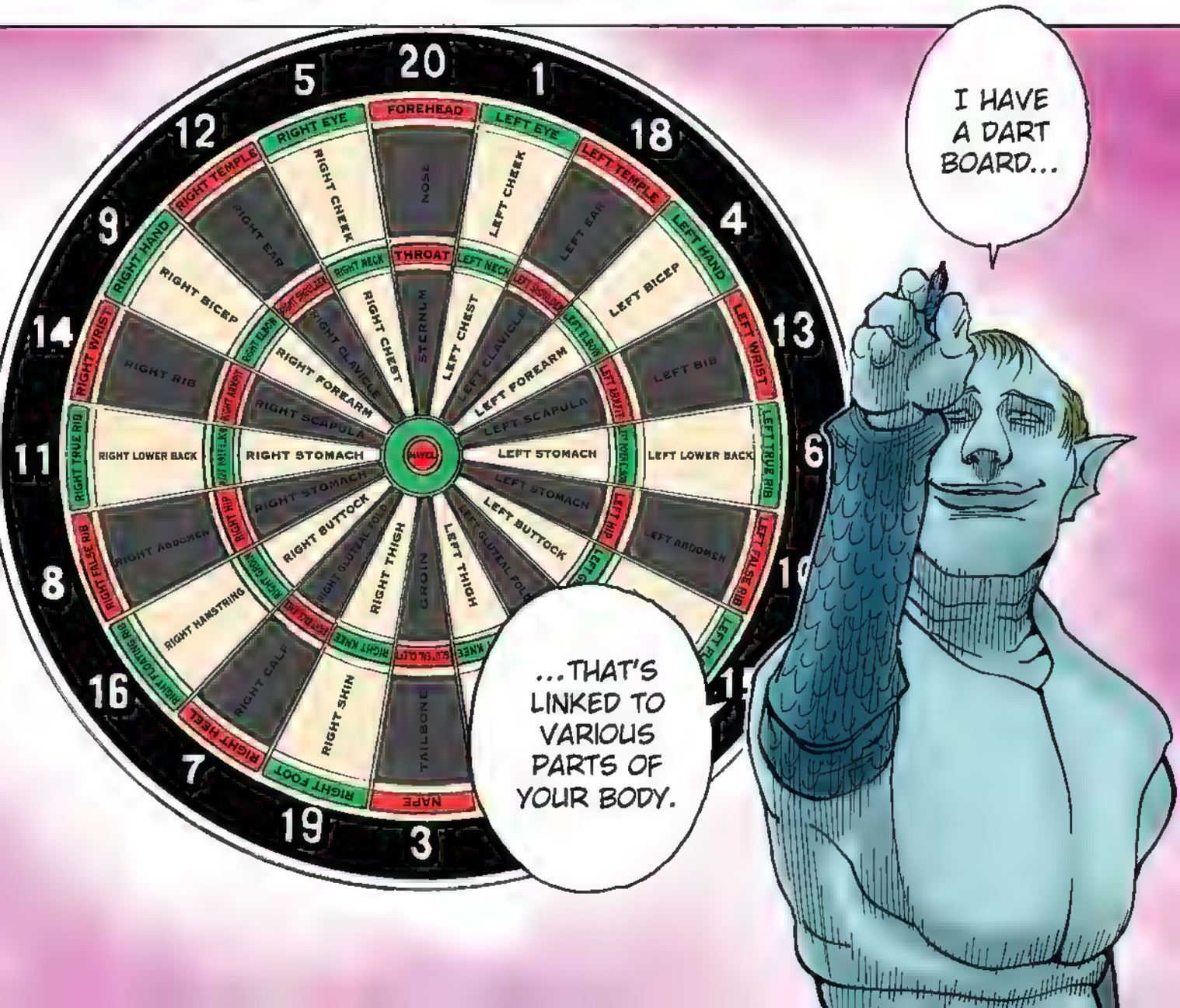




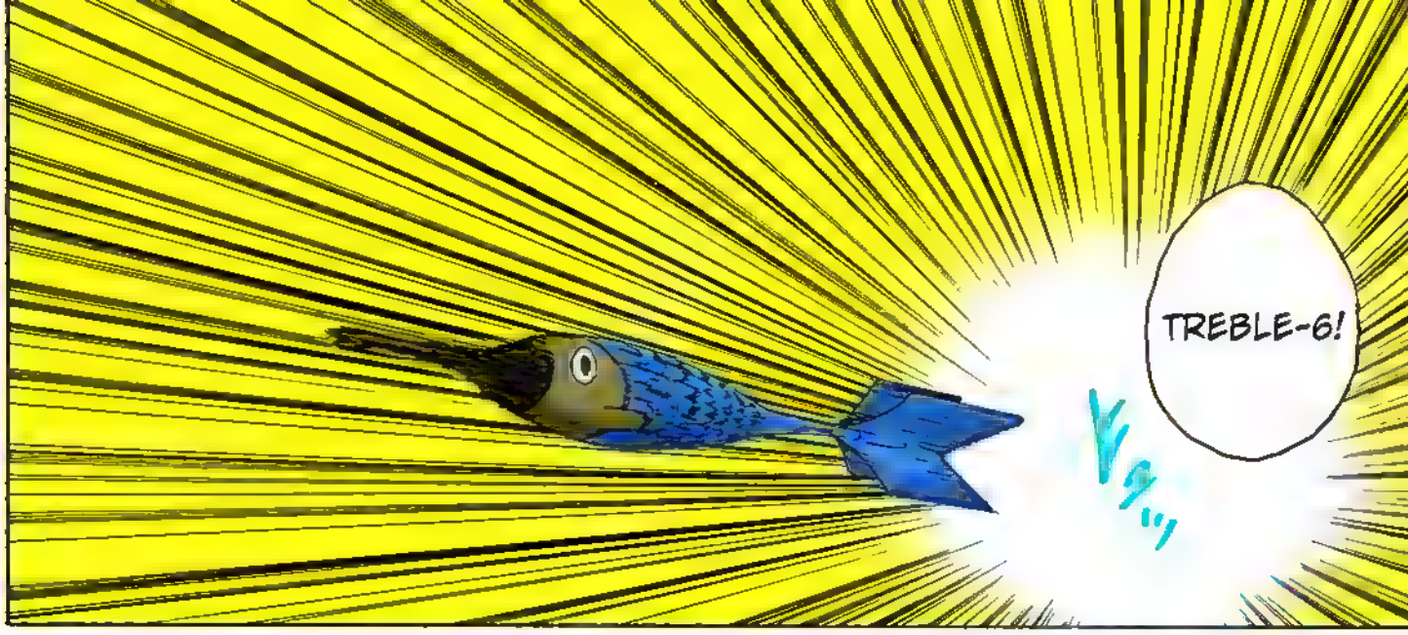
...A GAME OF DARTS ...!!
270
YOUR ABILITY INVOLVES ...
20
1
18
4
13
6
10
15
2
17
3
19
7
16
8
11
14
9
12
5

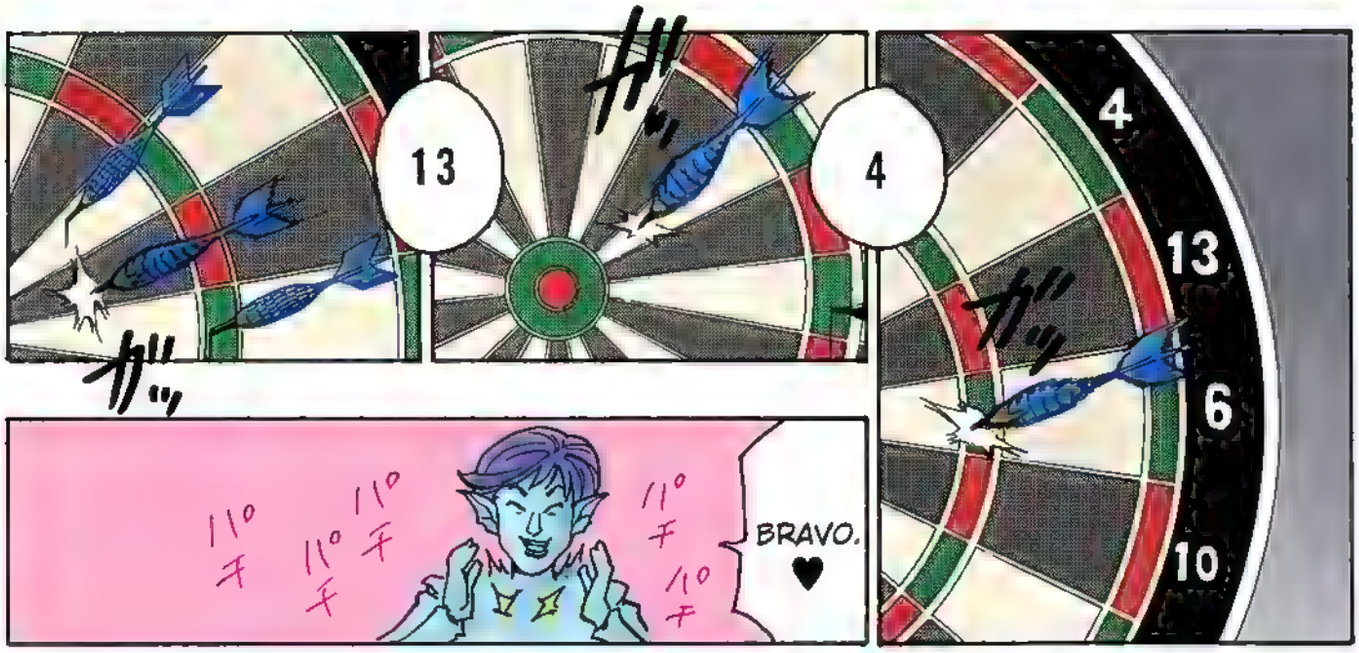
スゥ...
THE GREAT THING ABOUT OUR POWER IS THAT FIGURING IT OUT WON'T HELP YOU.
BECAUSE MY NEN FISH DARTS...
276
シュッ
BUT...
DING-DONG! THAT'S CORRECT!
ガッ!!!
GUH!
HAVE NO PHYSICAL FORM UNTIL THE INSTANT THEY PIERCE YOUR FLESH!!!
THAT MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO BLOCK THEM.

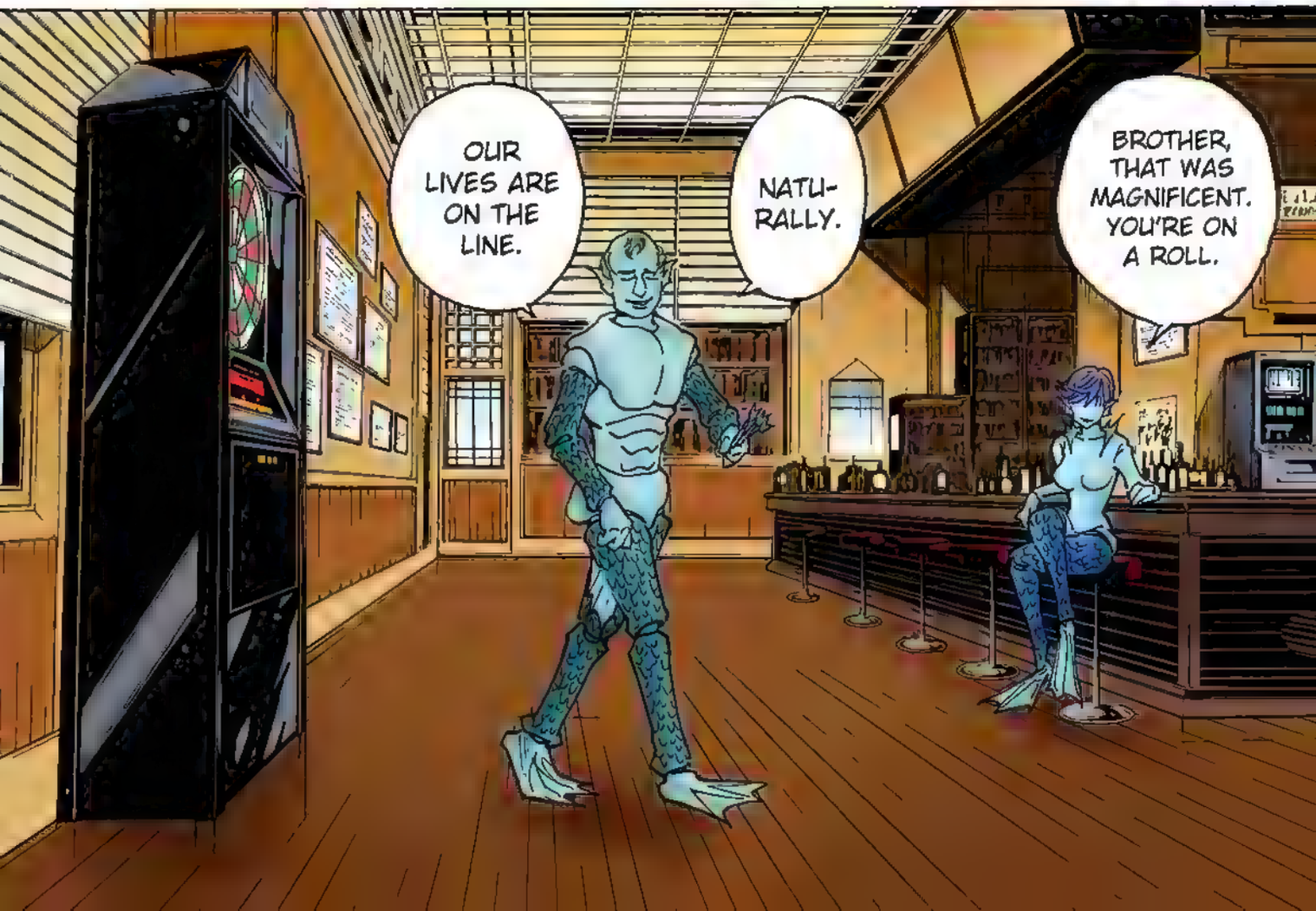

ブシュッ
SHPP
HEH HEH HEH, INCIDENTALLY, YOUR LEFT SHOULDER IS 54 POINTS.
ハッ
チッ
ハァ ハァ

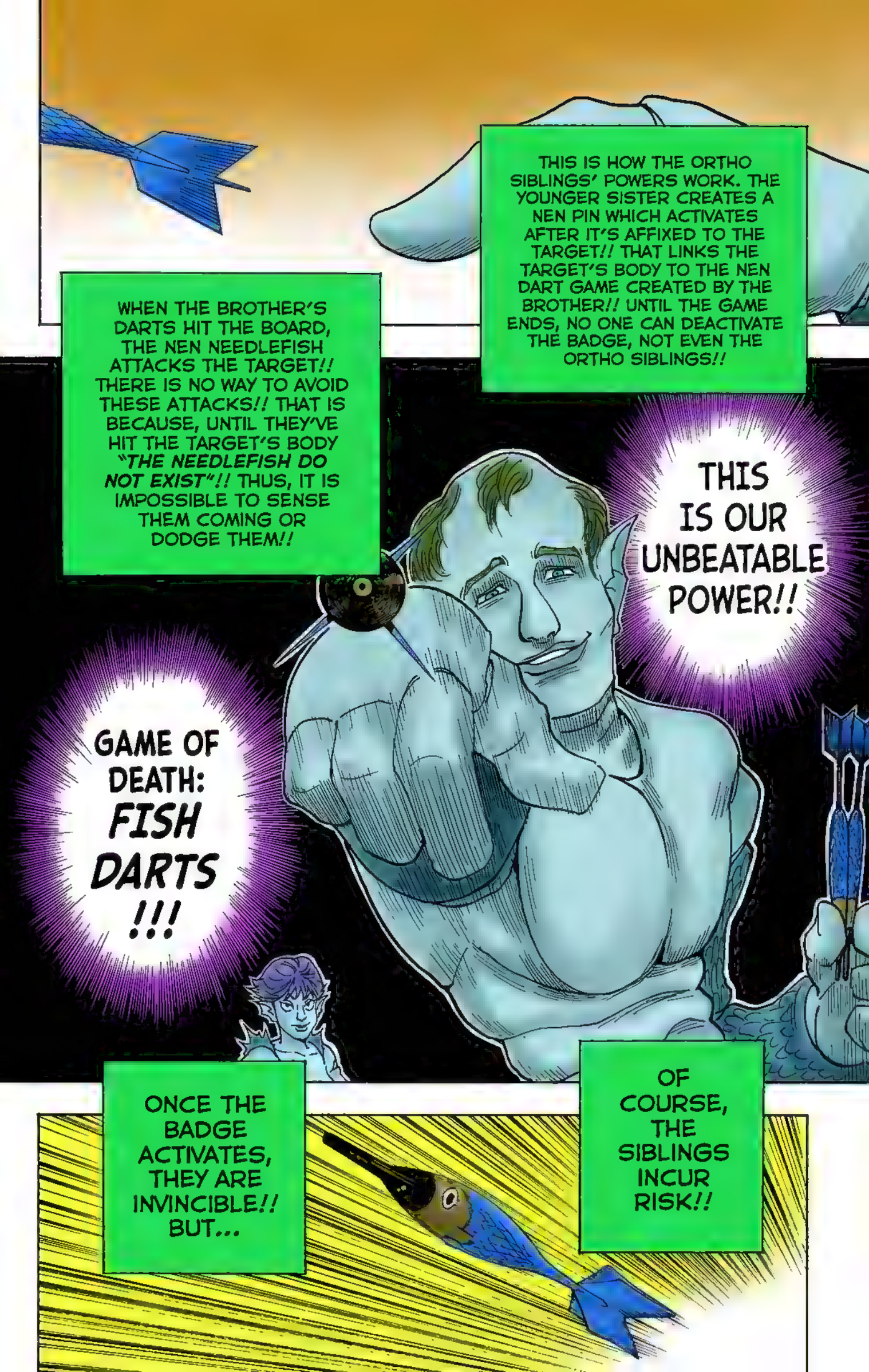

I HAVE A DART BOARD...
...THAT'S LINKED TO VARIOUS PARTS OF YOUR BODY.
20
1
18
4
13
6
10
15
19
3
16
7
8
11
14
9
12
5
FOREHEAD
RIGHT EYE
LEFT EYE
RIGHT TEMPLE
LEFT TEMPLE
NOSE
RIGHT CHEEK
LEFT CHEEK
RIGHT EAR
LEFT EAR
THROAT
RIGHT NECK
LEFT NECK
RIGHT HAND
LEFT HAND
RIGHT BICEP
LEFT BICEP
STERNUM
RIGHT CHEST
LEFT CHEST
RIGHT WRIST
LEFT WRIST
RIGHT CLAVICLE
LEFT CLAVICLE
RIGHT RIB
LEFT RIB
RIGHT FOREARM
LEFT FOREARM
RIGHT SCAPULA
LEFT SCAPULA
RIGHT TRUE RIB
LEFT TRUE RIB
RIGHT LOWER BACK
RIGHT STOMACH
NAVEL
LEFT STOMACH
LEFT LOWER BACK
RIGHT ABDOMEN
LEFT ABDOMEN
RIGHT BUTTOCK
LEFT BUTTOCK
RIGHT FALSE RIB
LEFT FALSE RIB
RIGHT THIGH
GROIN
LEFT THIGH
RIGHT HAMSTRING
RIGHT CALF
RIGHT SHIN
TAILBONE
RIGHT HEEL
RIGHT FOOT
NAPE

YOUR RIGHT ELBOW IS 27 POINTS!!
FOR INSTANCE ...
YOUR RIGHT HAND IS 18 POINTS!!
HEH HEH, THAT'S 99 POINTS!!
HEY HEY, WHAT'S WRONG? WHY CAN'T I HEAR YOU SCREAMING?
DID YOU DIE ALREADY? THE GAME'S ONLY JUST BEGUN.


TREBLE-6!


13
4
4
13
6
10
BRAVO.


OUR LIVES ARE ON THE LINE.
NATU-RALLY.
BROTHER, THAT WAS MAGNIFICENT. YOU'RE ON A ROLL.


THIS IS HOW THE ORTHO SIBLINGS' POWERS WORK. THE YOUNGER SISTER CREATES A NEN PIN WHICH ACTIVATES AFTER IT'S AFFIXED TO THE TARGET!! THAT LINKS THE TARGET'S BODY TO THE NEN DART GAME CREATED BY THE BROTHER!! UNTIL THE GAME ENDS, NO ONE CAN DEACTIVATE THE BADGE, NOT EVEN THE ORTHO SIBLINGS!!
WHEN THE BROTHER'S DARTS HIT THE BOARD, THE NEN NEEDLEFISH ATTACKS THE TARGET!! THERE IS NO WAY TO AVOID THESE ATTACKS!! THAT IS BECAUSE, UNTIL THEY'VE HIT THE TARGET'S BODY "THE NEEDLEFISH DO NOT EXIST"!! THUS, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SENSE THEM COMING OR DODGE THEM!!
THIS IS OUR UNBEATABLE POWER!!
GAME OF DEATH: FISH DARTS !!!
ONCE THE BADGE ACTIVATES, THEY ARE INVINCIBLE!! BUT...
OF COURSE, THE SIBLINGS INCUR RISK!!

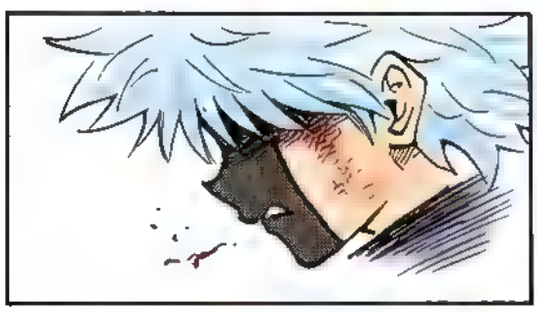
THE BROTHER MUST NOT MISS THE LAST SHOT OF THE GAME!! IF HE DOES AND BUSTS, ALL OF THE DAMAGE THE TARGET HAS TAKEN...

...WILL TRANSFER BACK ONTO THE SIBLINGS!!!

WE ARE INVINCIBLE.

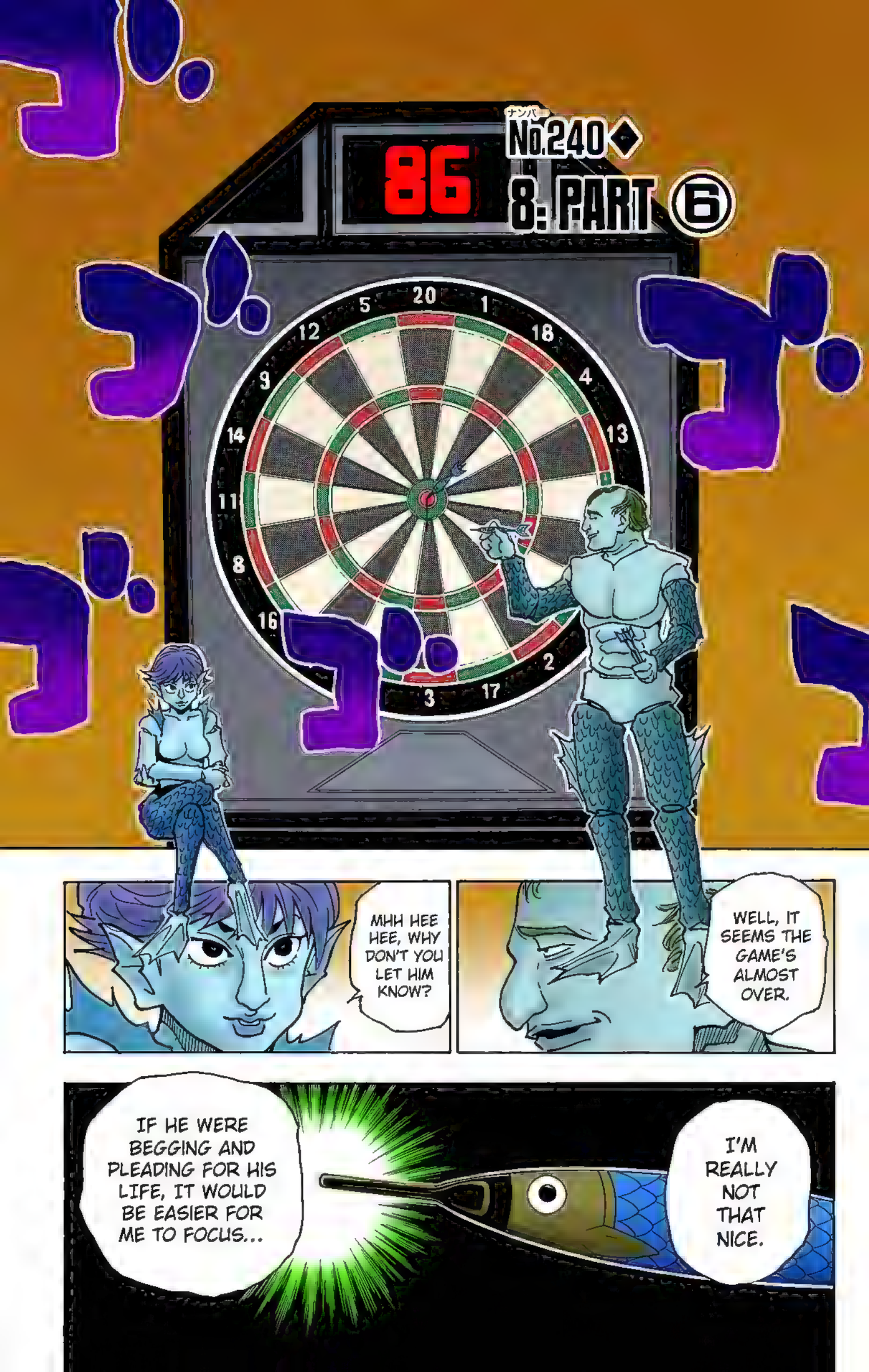
WHY?

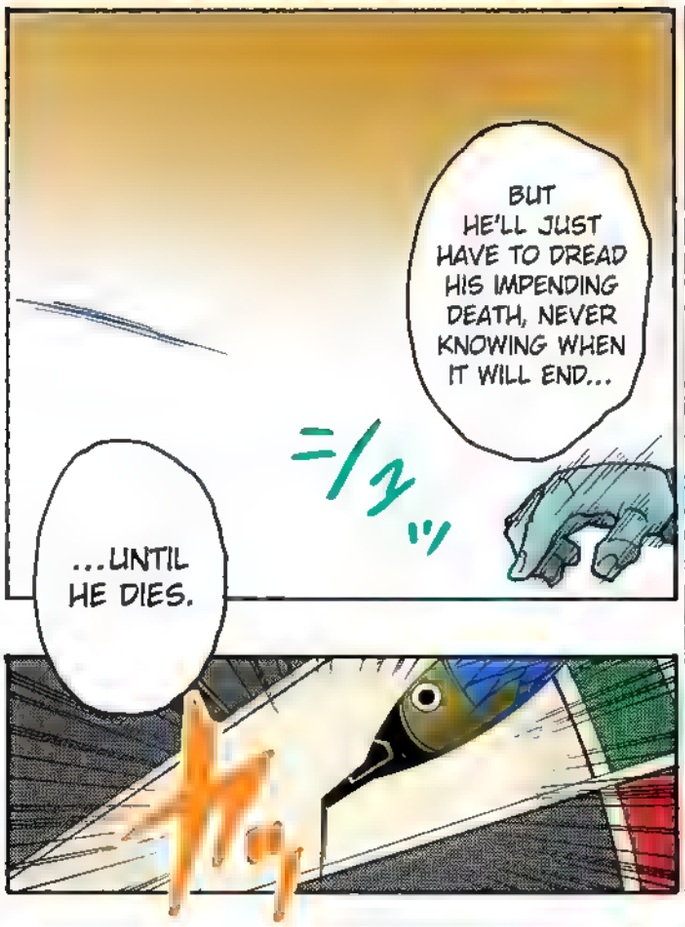
BECAUSE OUR FAITH IN EACH OTHER IS THE STRONGEST IN THE WORLD.

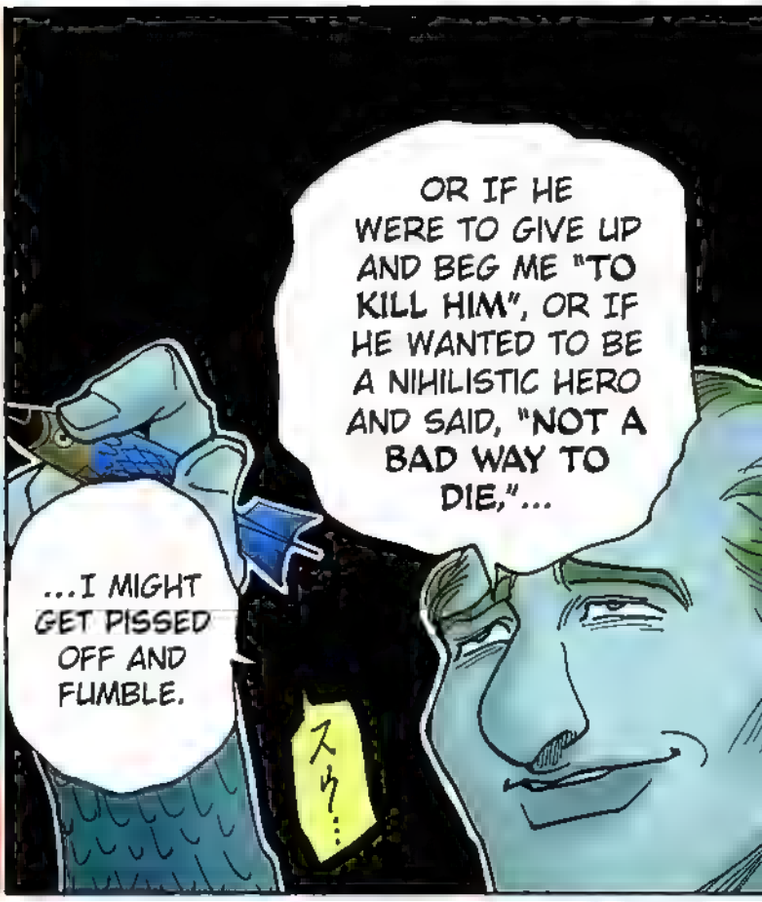


NOT YET...

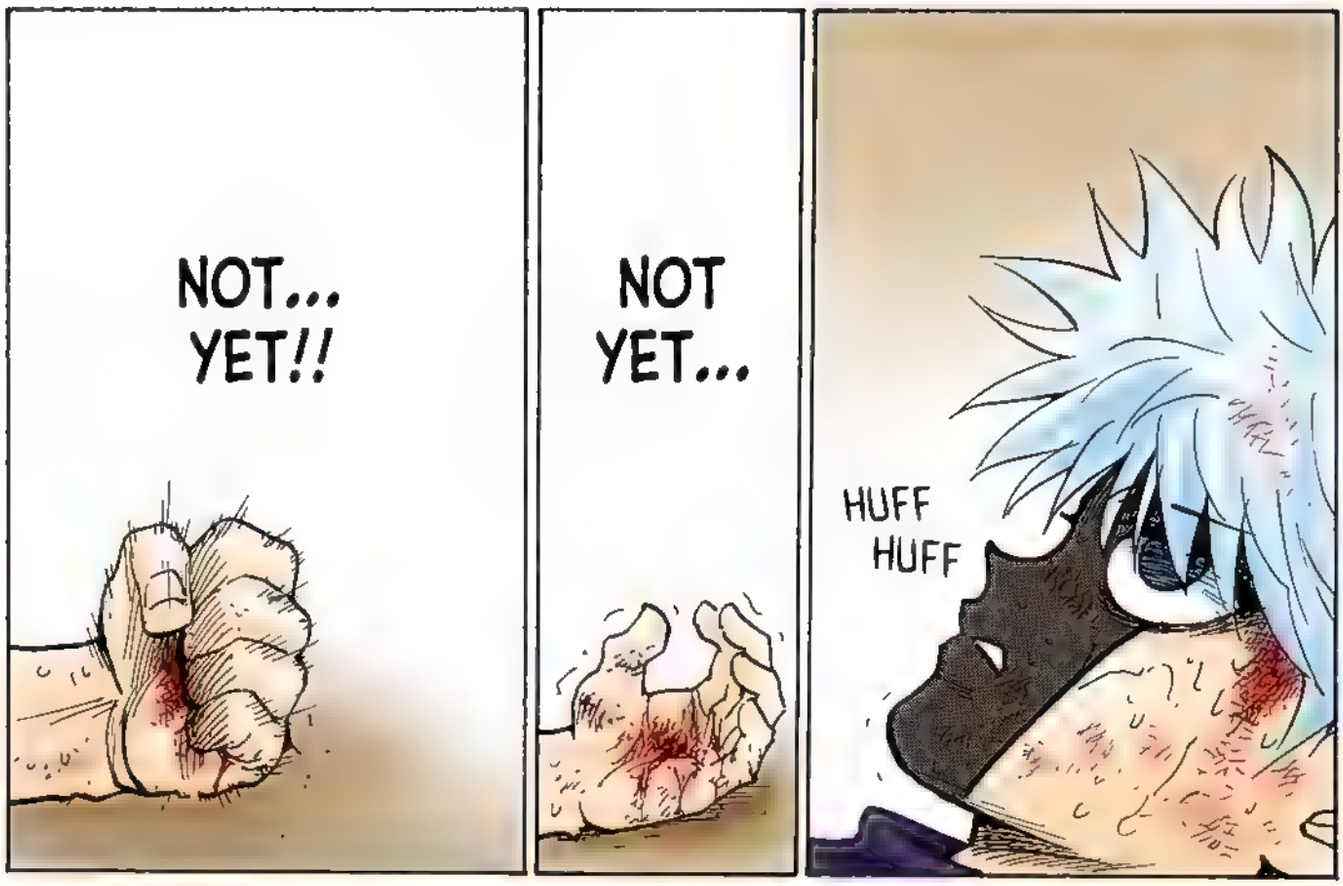
NOT YET...!!!

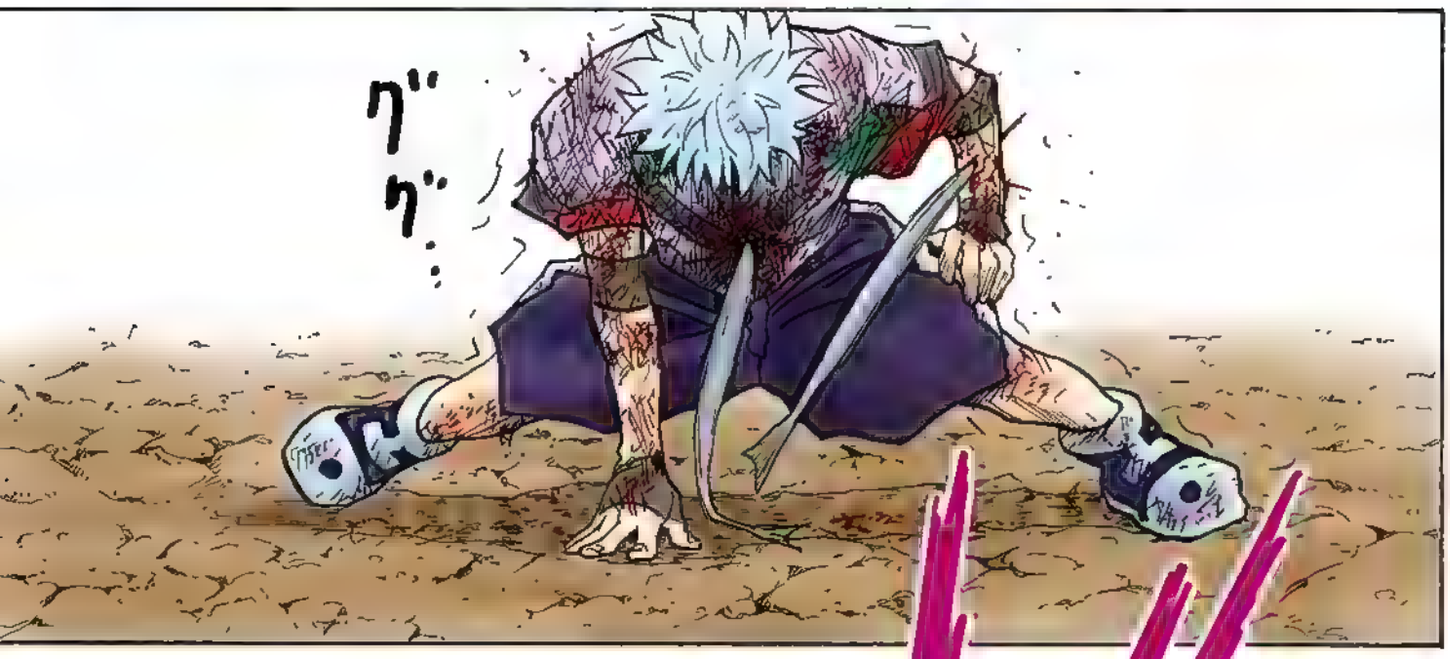

86
No.240
8: PART 6
MHH HEE HEE, WHY DON'T YOU LET HIM KNOW?
WELL, IT SEEMS THE GAME'S ALMOST OVER.
IF HE WERE BEGGING AND PLEADING FOR HIS LIFE, IT WOULD BE EASIER FOR ME TO FOCUS...
I'M REALLY NOT THAT NICE.


BUT HE'LL JUST HAVE TO DREAD HIS IMPENDING DEATH, NEVER KNOWING WHEN IT WILL END...
...UNTIL HE DIES.


OR IF HE WERE TO GIVE UP AND BEG ME "TO KILL HIM", OR IF HE WANTED TO BE A NIHILISTIC HERO AND SAID, "NOT A BAD WAY TO DIE,"...
...I MIGHT GET PISSED OFF AND FUMBLE.

ドオッ


NOT... YET!!
NOT YET...
HUFF HUFF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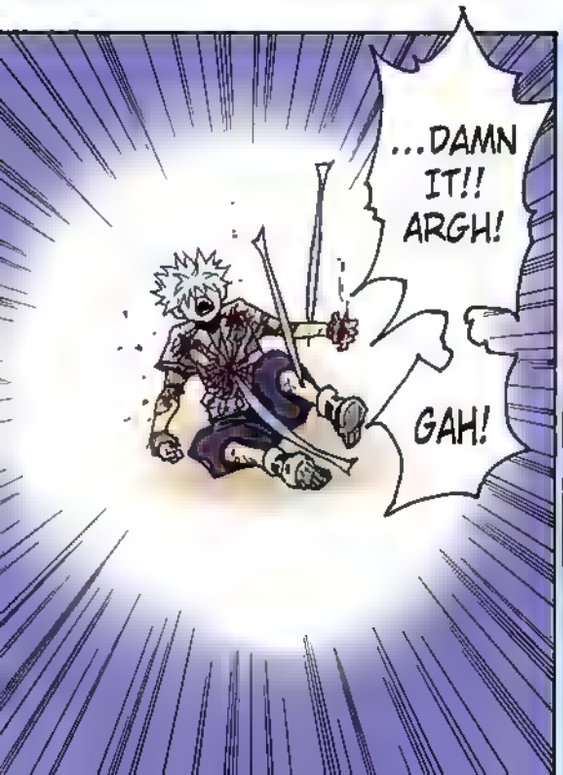
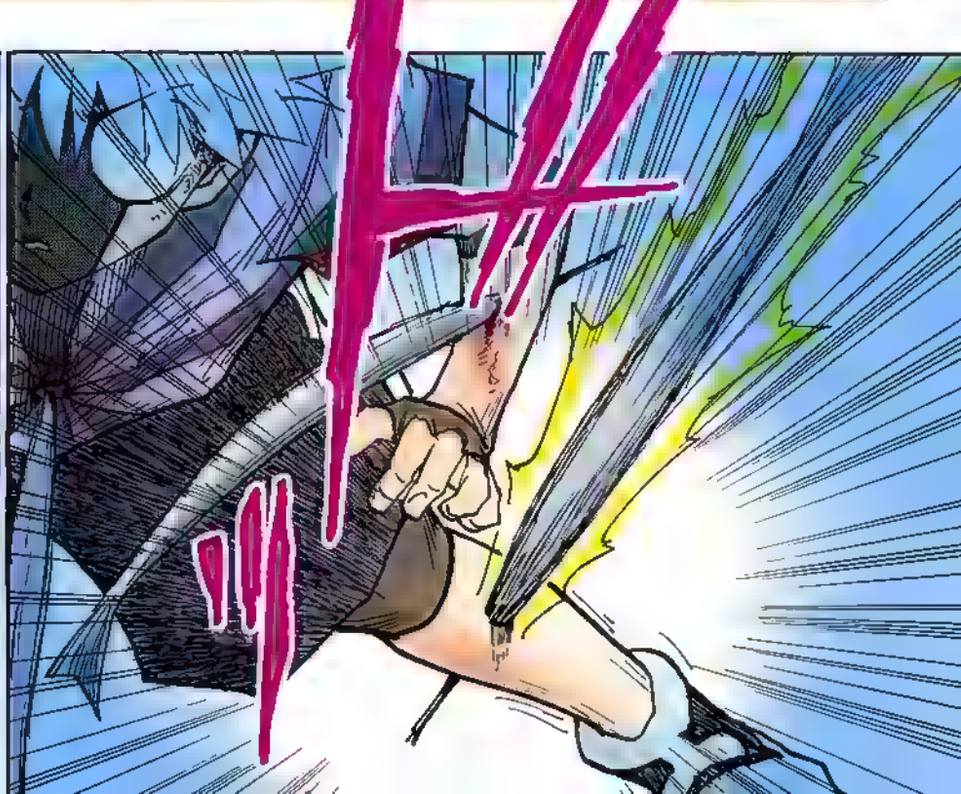
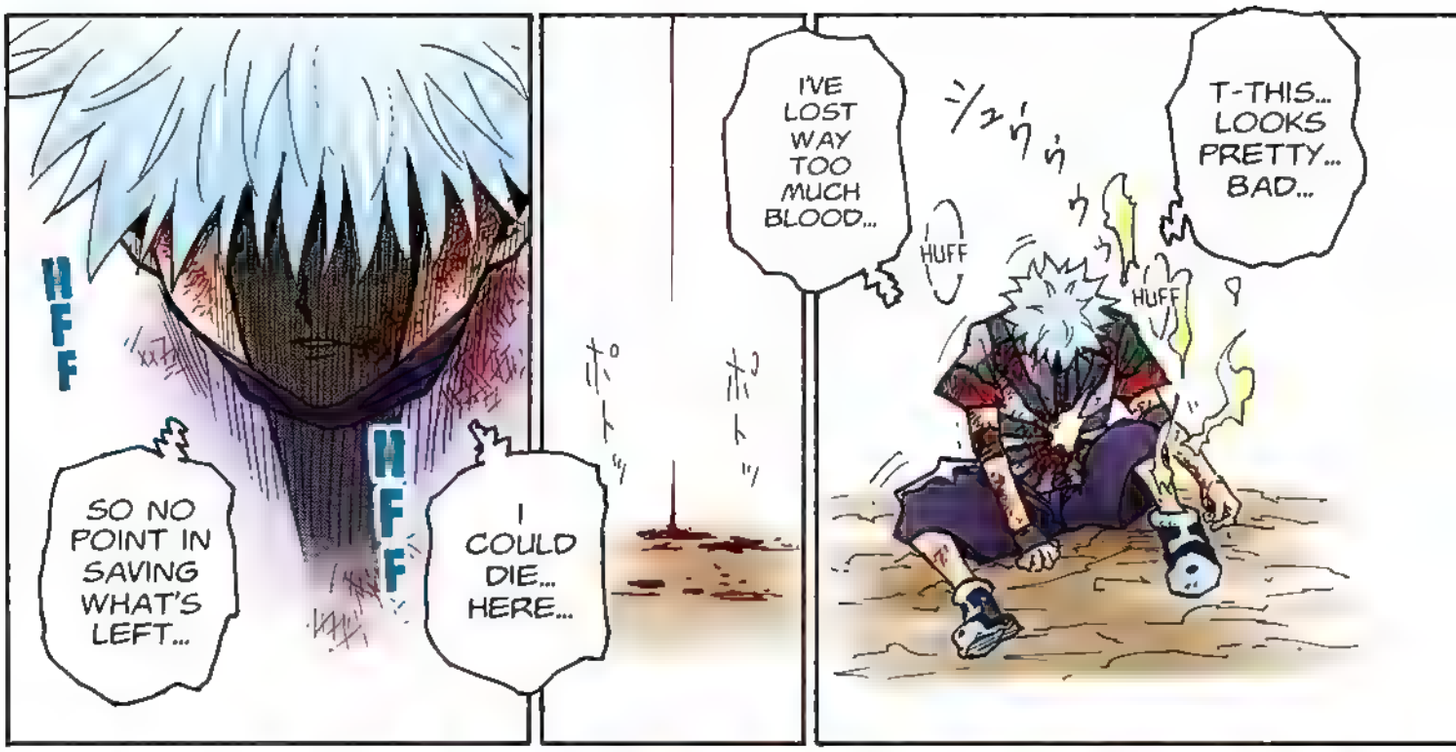
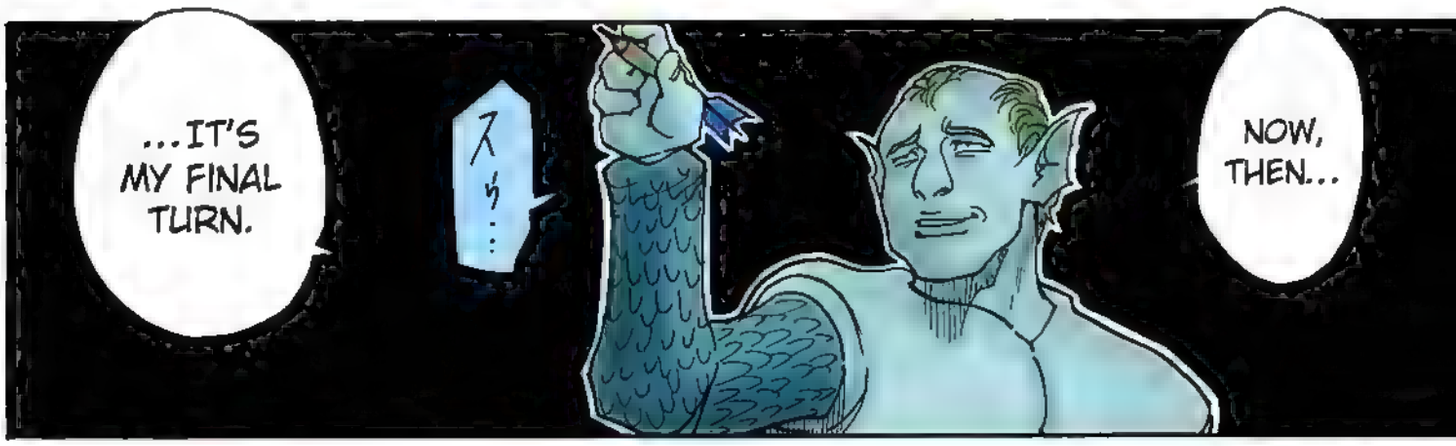
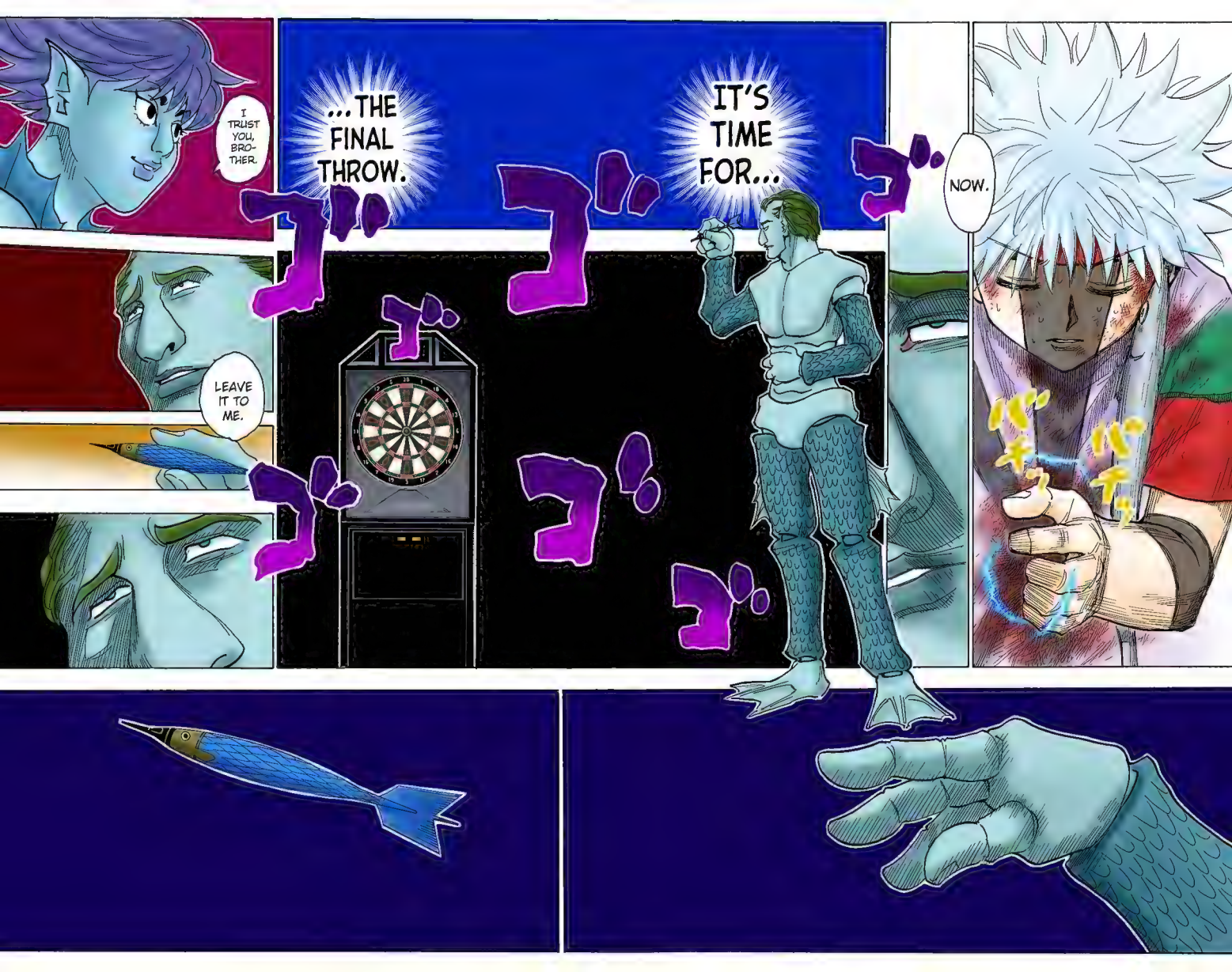

...DAMN IT!! ARGH!
GAH!




HFF
HFF
SO NO POINT IN SAVING WHAT'S LEFT...
I COULD DIE... HERE...
ポトッ
ポトッ
I'VE LOST WAY TOO MUCH BLOOD...
T-THIS... LOOKS PRETTY... BAD...
HUFF
HUFF


...IT'S MY FINAL TURN.
スッ...
NOW, THEN...

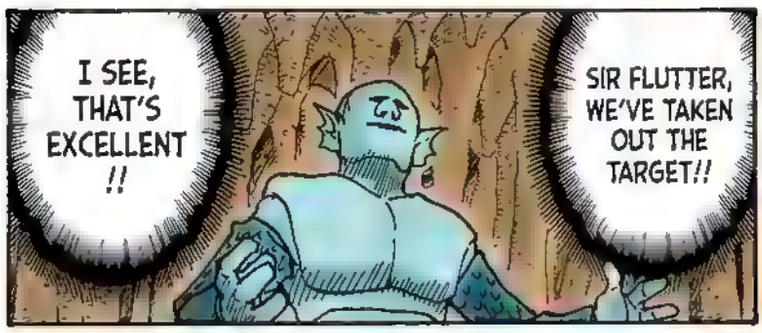
LEFT EAR, 18 POINTS.
18
THAT SURE GAVE HIM A BIG EARRING.
HEH HEH.
RIGHT CALF, 7 POINTS.
7

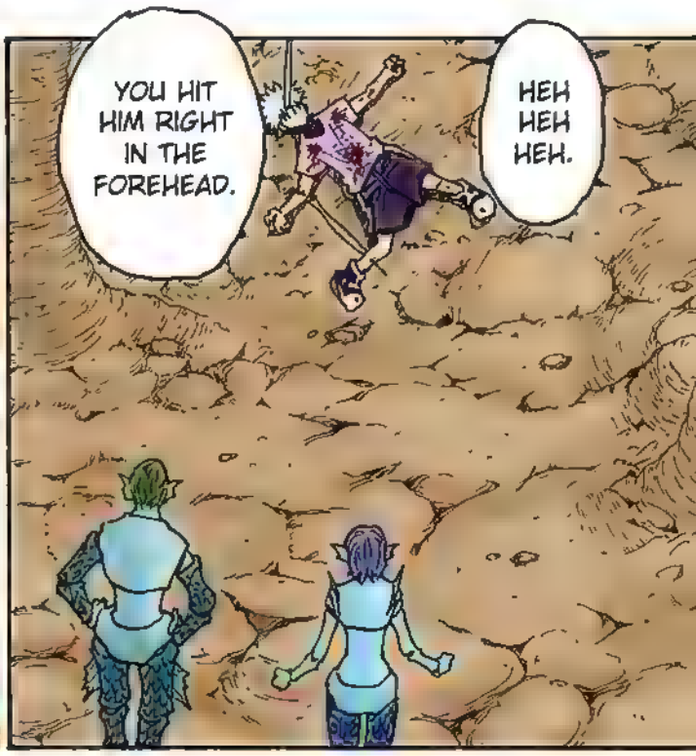

I TRUST YOU, BROTHER.
LEAVE IT TO ME.
...THE FINAL THROW.
IT'S TIME FOR...
NOW.
ゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ
バキッ
バキッ

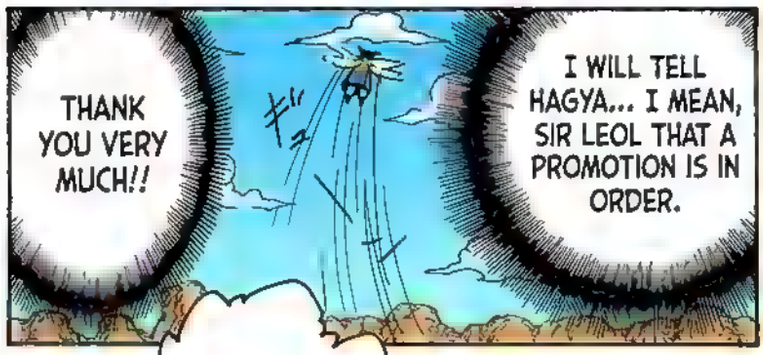
0
20
SEE?
BRAVO ...!!
YOU'RE THE BEST IN THE WORLD, BROTHER!!
HAA HAA, STOP IT...
MUAW!
YAY ...!!
YAY!
YAY!

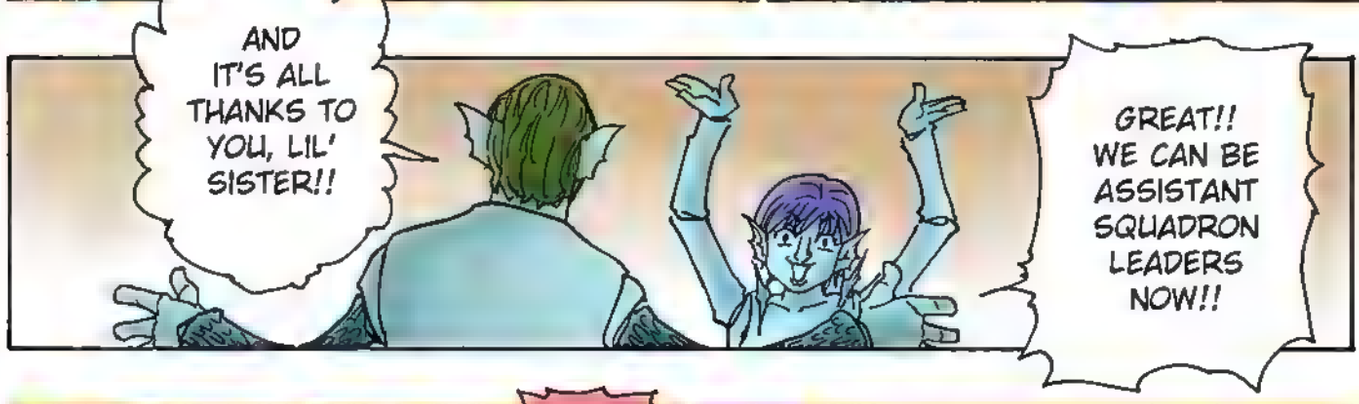
グラァ…
ドォッ
WE SHOULD SHARE SOME OF THE MEAT WITH COBURN AS A REWARD.
ゴポ…
ゴポ…
I'LL COME WITH YOU.
I'LL GO CHECK HIS CORPSE.

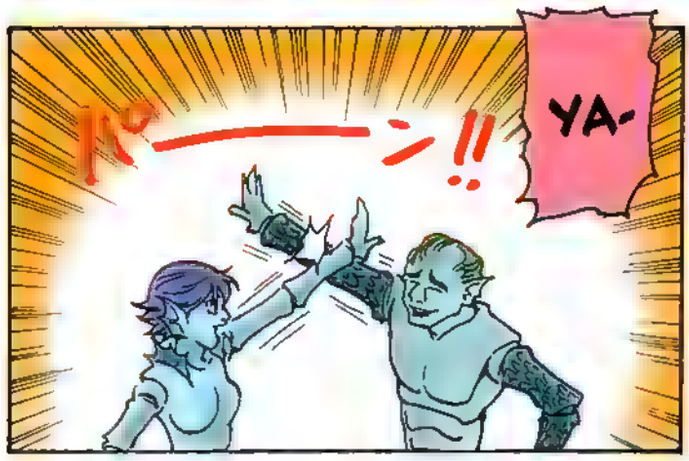
トプ…

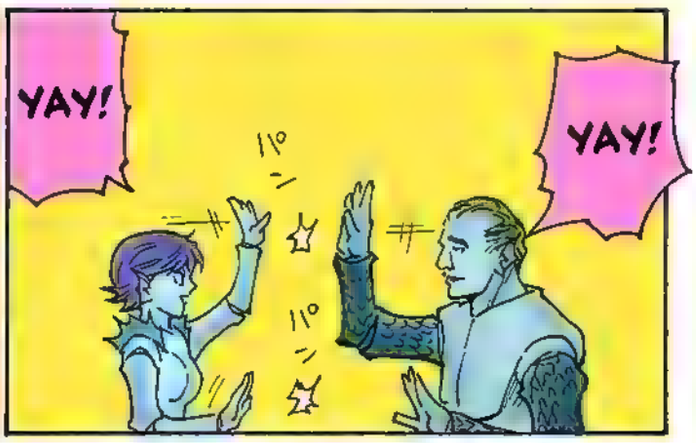

I SEE, THAT'S EXCELLENT !!
SIR FLUTTER, WE'VE TAKEN OUT THE TARGET!!


YOU HIT HIM RIGHT IN THE FOREHEAD.
HEH HEH HEH.


THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!
ギュ
I WILL TELL HAGYA... I MEAN, SIR LEOL THAT A PROMOTION IS IN ORDER.

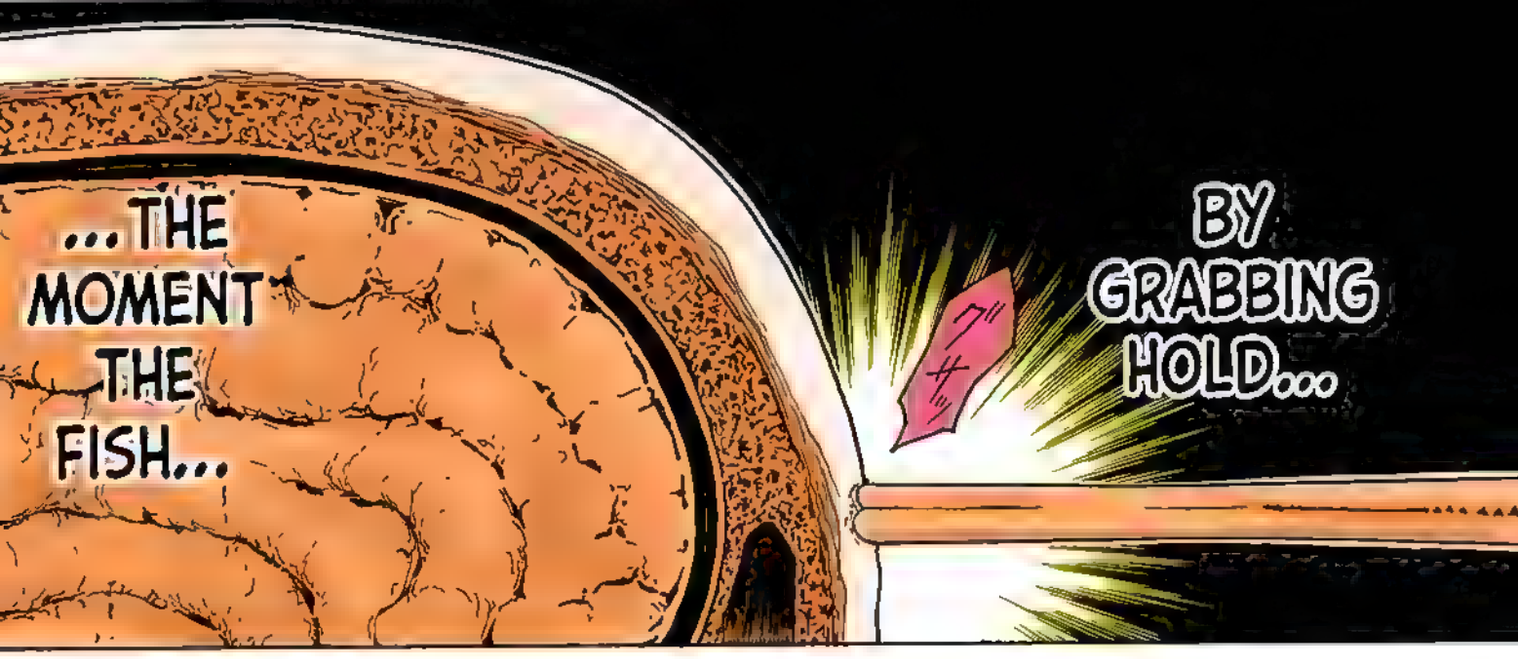

AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, LIL' SISTER!!
GREAT!! WE CAN BE ASSISTANT SQUADRON LEADERS NOW!!

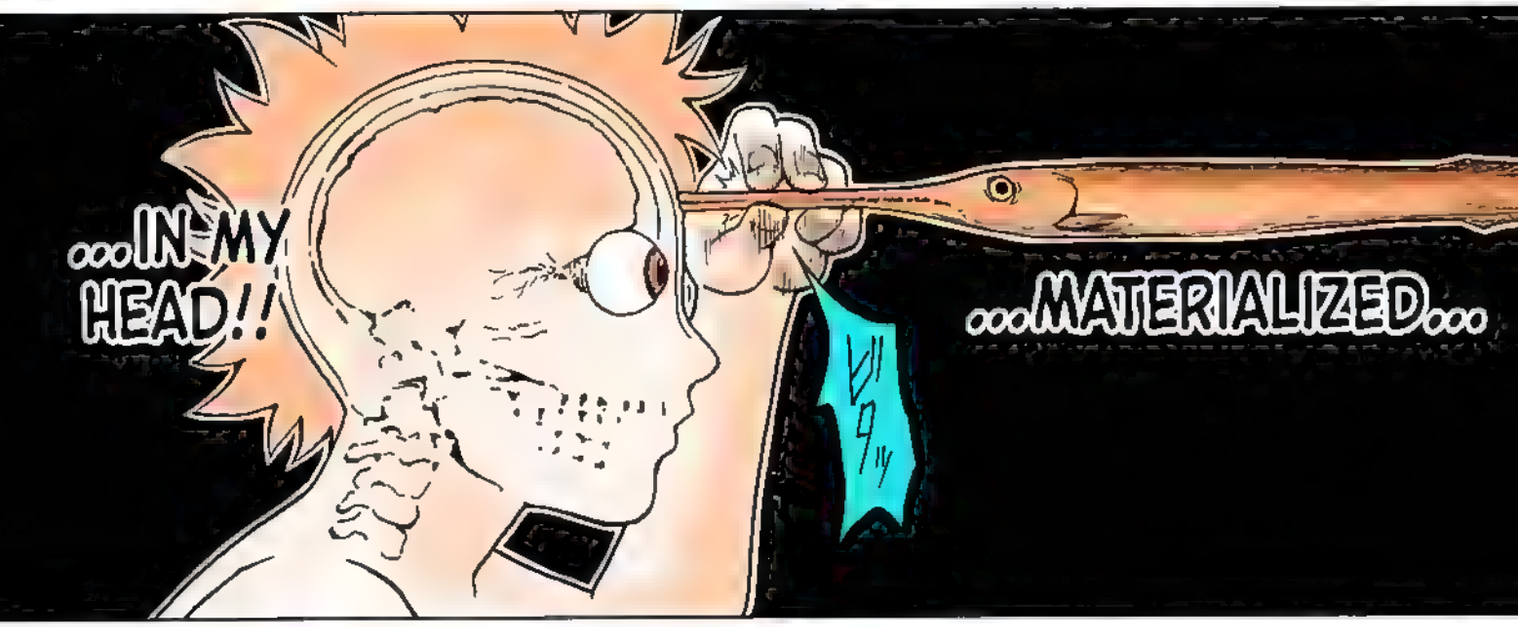

パーン!!
YA-


YAY!
YAY!

.....
...AY ?!

HFF
HFF
HOW CAN YOU BE ALIVE WITH A DART STICKING OUT OF YOUR BRAIN?!
グラ?ア
?
?
HOW?
H-
HUFF HUFF
FROM AN OCTOPUS.
IT'S A SUCTION CUP...
SO... IT MATERIALIZES ON IMPACT BEFORE IT GETS TO ME, RIGHT?
YEAH... I DIDN'T STOP IT.
I GRABBED IT, BEFORE IT PIERCED ME.
M-MY DARTS WERE PERFECT !!
N-NO WAY. HOW DID YOU MANAGE THAT TRICK?! NO WAIT...
IT'S ABSOLUTELY IMPOSSIBLE TO BLOCK !!





IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE HAD I NOT KNOWN WHERE IT WOULD APPEAR.

WELL...

IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE FOR A HUMAN!!

BEFORE THAT!! NO HUMAN HAS REFLEXES FAST ENOUGH TO CATCH A DART!

AFTER I GRABBED IT, I HAD PLENTY OF TIME TO BREAK THE FISH BEAK...

FROM WHAT YOU WERE SAYING, I COULD TELL... YOU COULD HEAR MY VOICE, BUT YOU COULDN'T SEE ME.

...AND STICK A SUCKER ON IT.

WAIT, HOLD! HOLD IT!!

"WHEN" AND "WHERE" ...

...THE LAST DART WOULD HIT...!!

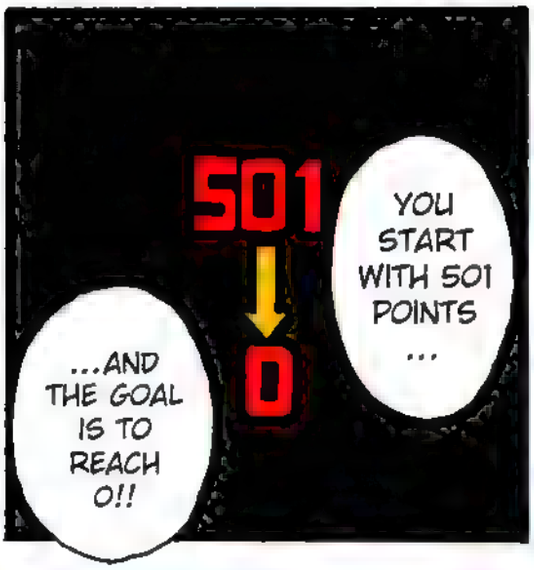
?

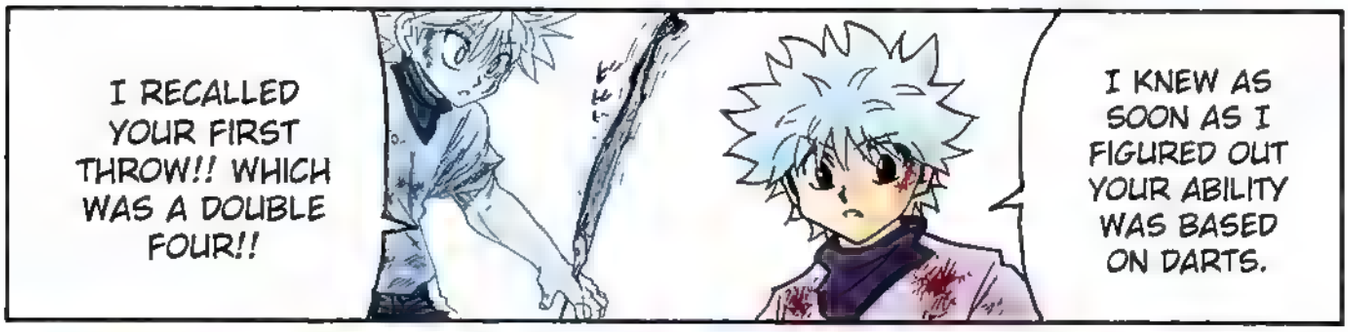
?

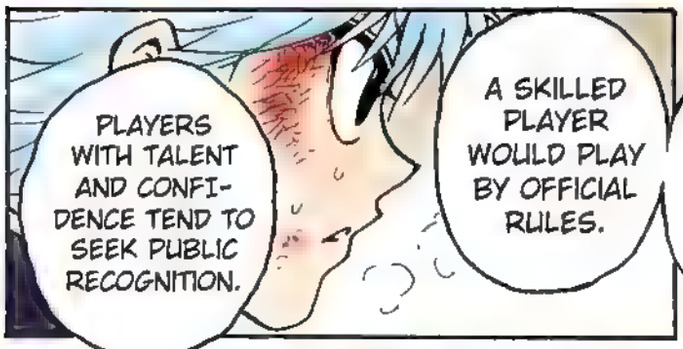
?

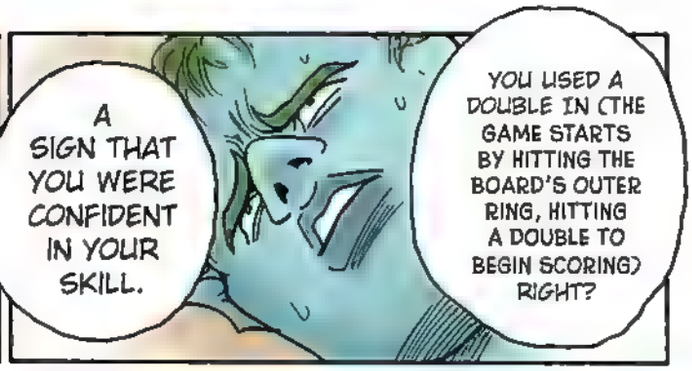
I KNEW EXACTLY...

BUT ...

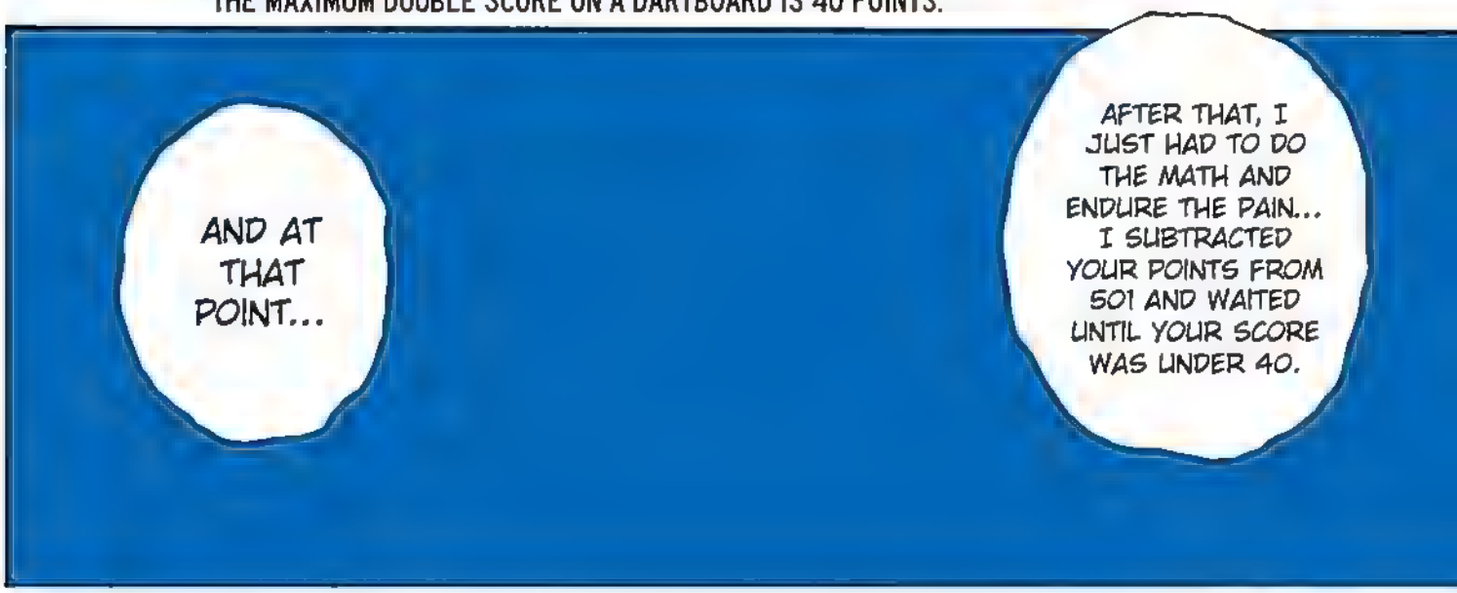








*THE MAXIMUM DOUBLE SCORE ON A DARTBOARD IS 40 POINTS.

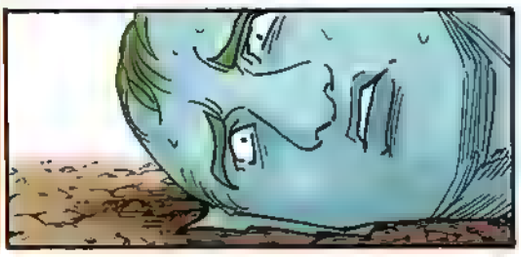


I PLACED MY HAND IN THE 40-POINT AREA, MY FOREHEAD.

THAT'S ALL...

KILLUA DIDN'T BOTHER TO EXPLAIN...

...THAT HE CHANGED HIS AURA INTO ELECTRICITY TO MAXIMIZE HIS REACTION TIME!!



...HE PROGRAMMED THE AURA AROUND HIS HAND TO SEND AN ELECTRIC SIGNAL DIRECTLY TO THE MUSCLES, THUS "*GRASPING*" THE FISH THE INSTANT THE AURA SENSED IT!!

WITH NEN MANIPULATION, THE AURA SENDS A COMMAND DIRECTLY TO THE HAND, BYPASSING THE NERVOUS SYSTEM ALTOGETHER!!

THE SIGNAL TRAVELS THROUGH THE BRAIN AND THE NERVES DELAYING HIS REACTION.

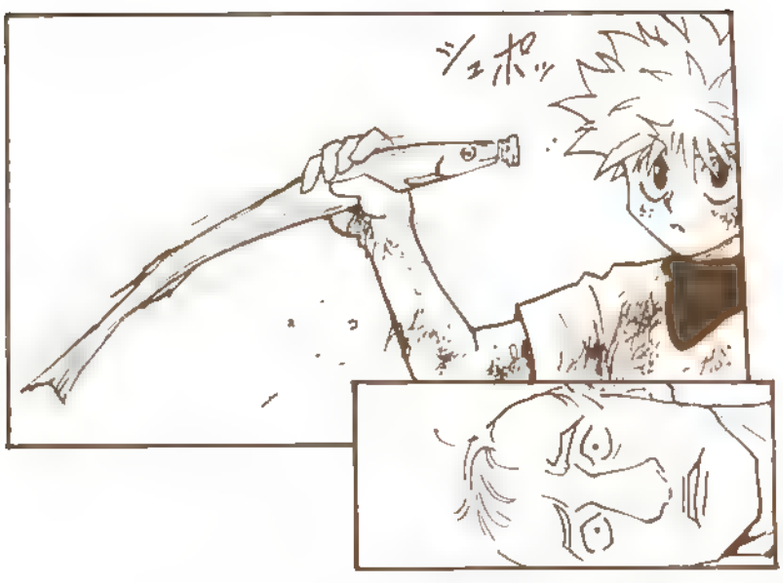
RATHER THAN WAIT FOR THE NERVES OF HIS SKIN TO SENSE THE FISH, WHICH RELAYS THAT SIGNAL TO THE BRAIN, THEN PROCESSES IT AND TRANSMITS A COMMAND TO THE HAND...

WAS I 7...? WHAT-EVER.

IT WAS PART OF BASIC TRAINING ...!

AT AGE 6, I MASTERED THE GAME. GOT A PERFECT SCORE IN COUNT UP. 1440 POINTS.

HOW... LONG HAVE YOU BEEN PLAYING DARTS ...?!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No.241 ◆ 8: PART ⑦

OH, SHUT UP!! ALL YOU DID WAS SIT ON YOUR ASS AND CLAPPED YOUR HANDS!!

IT'S YOUR FAULT FOR GETTING COCKY AND TALKING TOO MUCH, YOU JUST HAD TO, DIDN'T YOU?!

I NEED TO HURRY. I TALKED TOO LONG.

NOW ...

THEY REALLY ARE RESI-LIENT.

ぎゅー

I-I'M NOT BALD!!

YOU SHOULD BE GRATEFUL YOU EVEN HAVE SOMEONE TO CHEER FOR YOU!!

YOU UGLY BITCH!

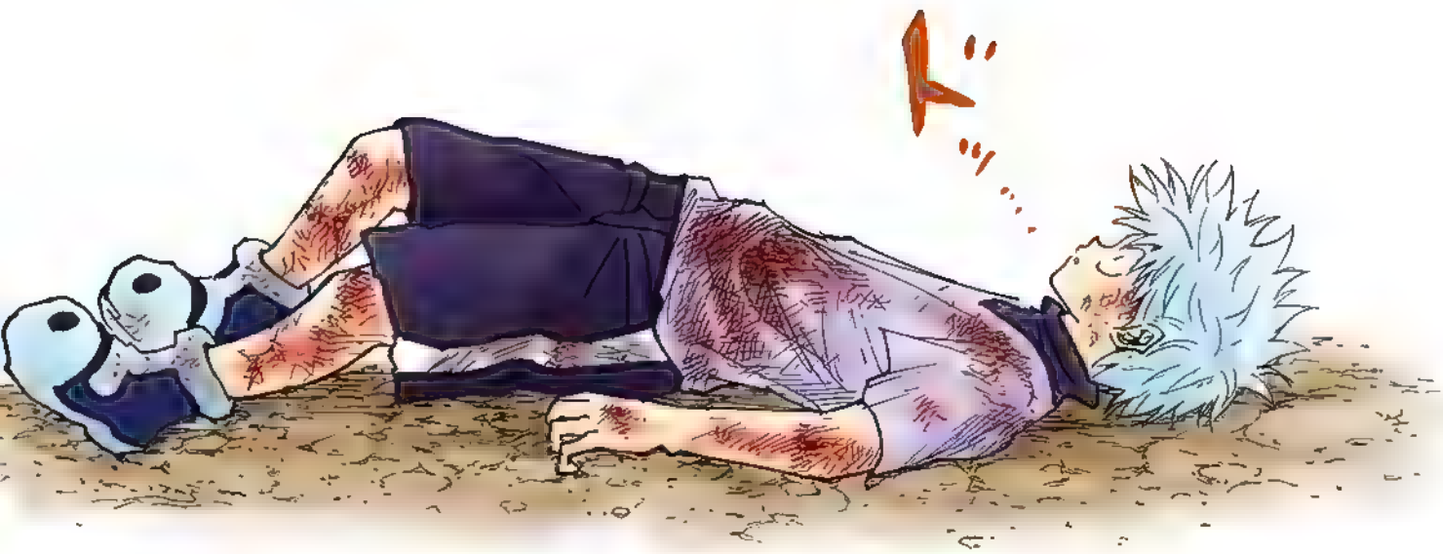
YOU BALDY !!

BALDY!

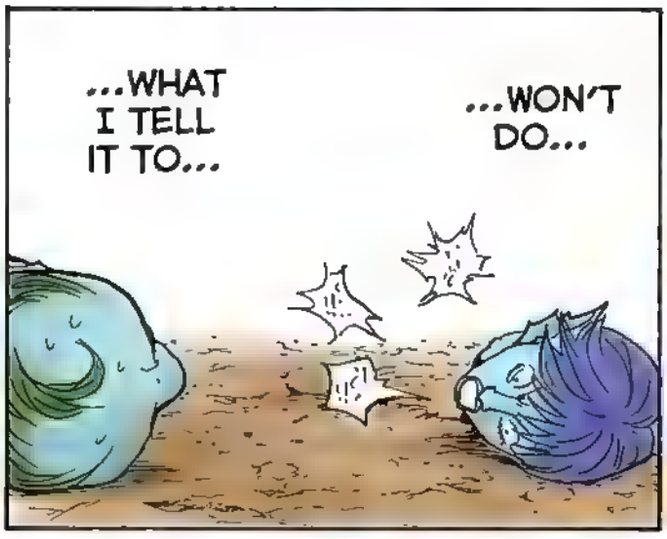
...FROM KILLING MORE...

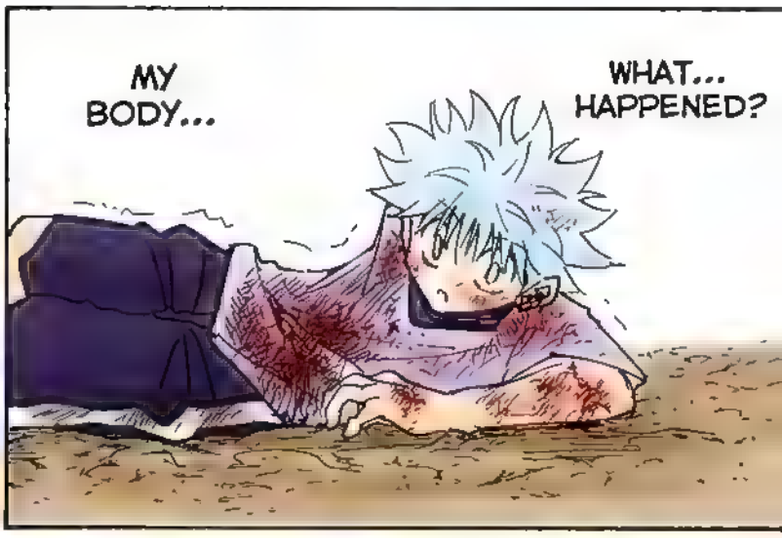
I GOTTA STOP THEM...

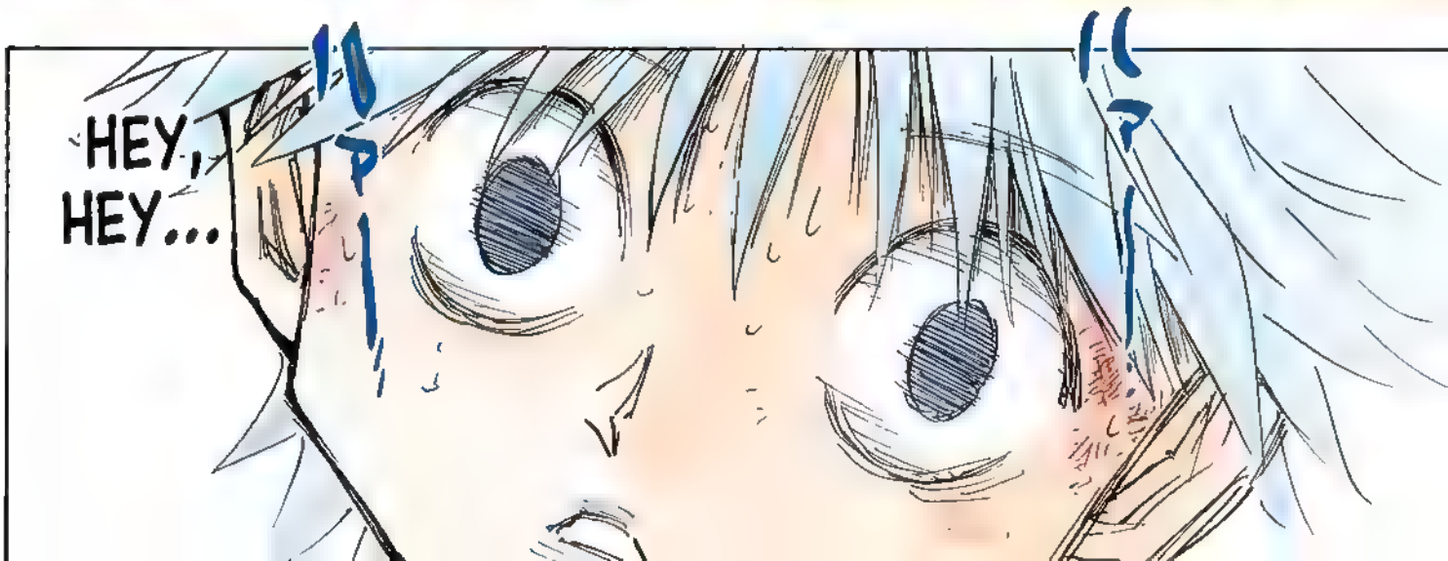
ぐらり



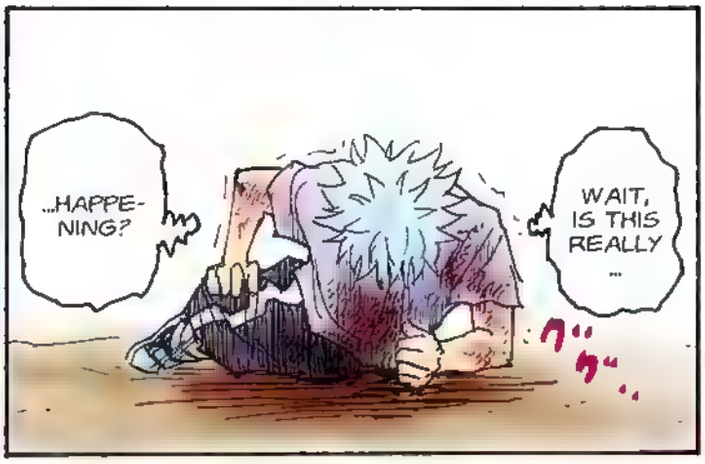
HUH
...?

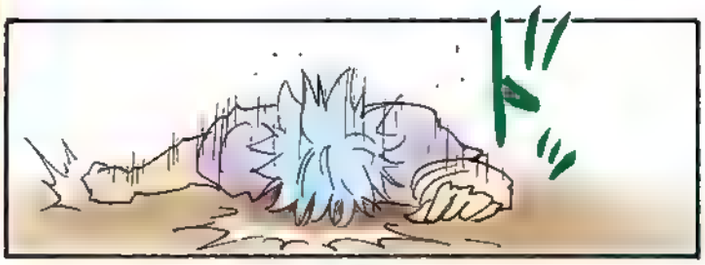

...WHAT I TELL IT TO...
...WON'T DO...


MY BODY...
WHAT... HAPPENED?

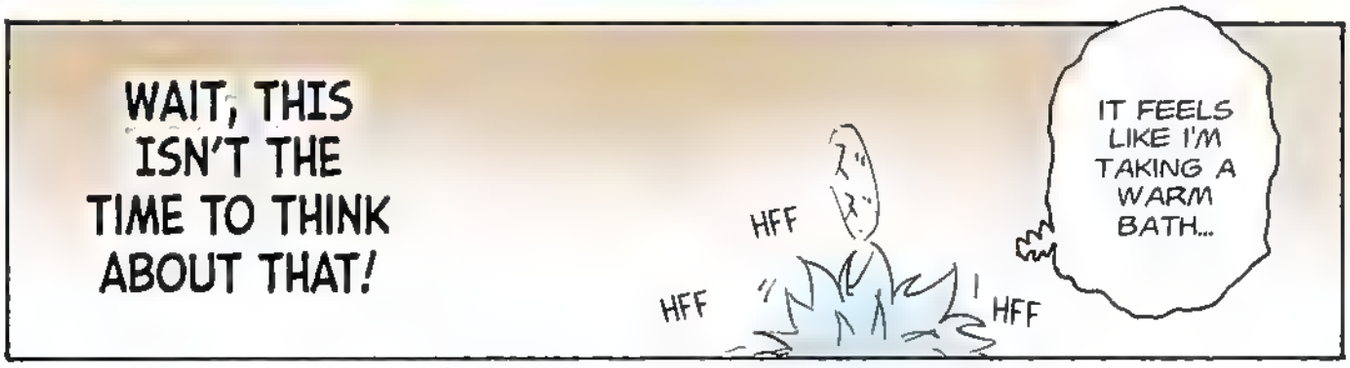

HEY, HEY...

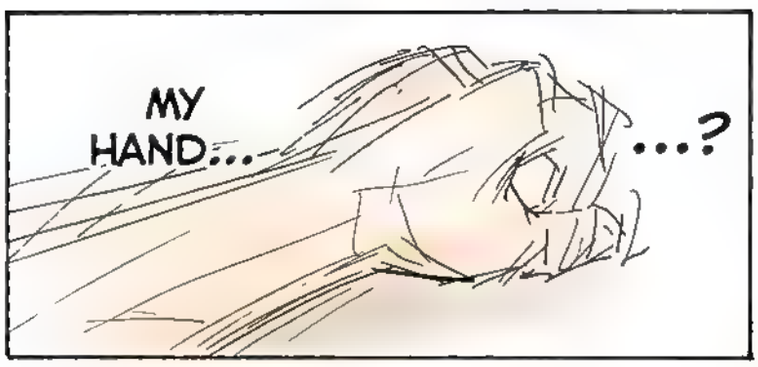
HFF
WOW...
HFF
HFF
ビチャ…

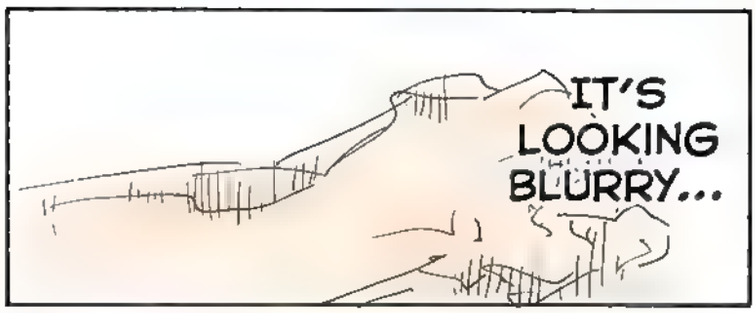

...HAPPE-NING?
WAIT, IS THIS REALLY ...



...REALLY MY BLOOD?
IS ALL OF THIS...


WAIT, THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO THINK ABOUT THAT!
HFF
HFF
HFF
IT FEELS LIKE I'M TAKING A WARM BATH...


MY HAND...
...?


IT'S LOOKING BLURRY...

I SHOULD GET GOING...
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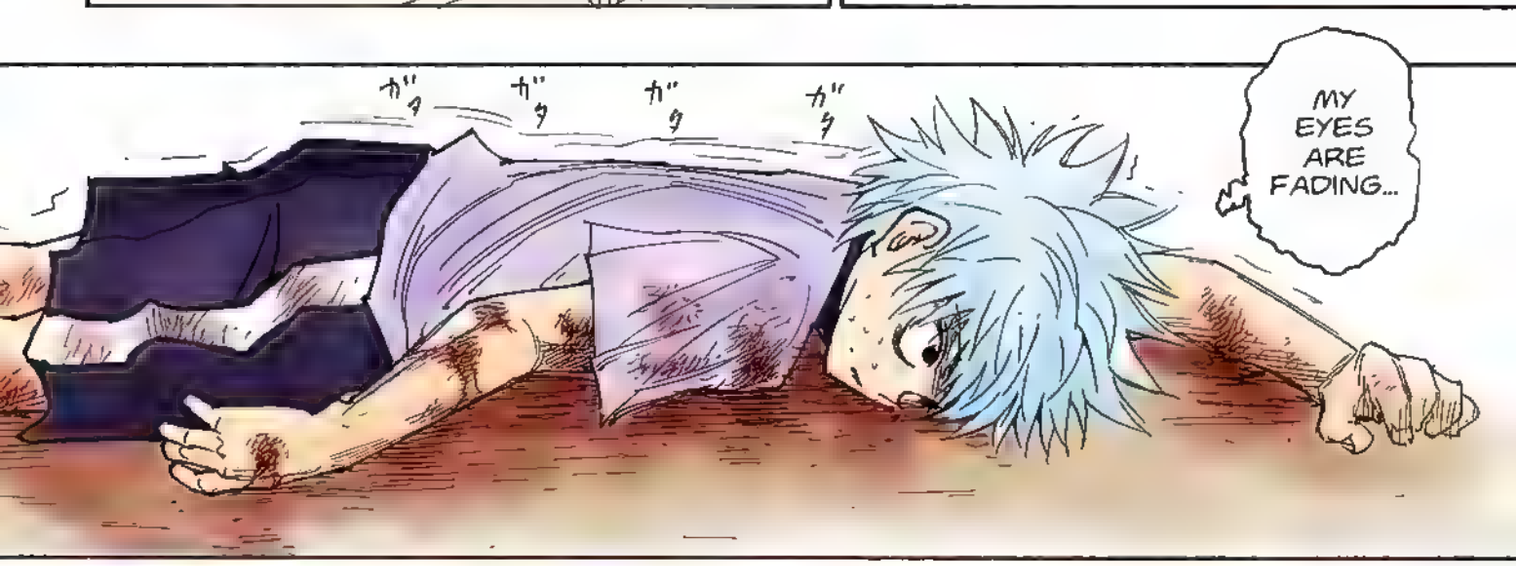
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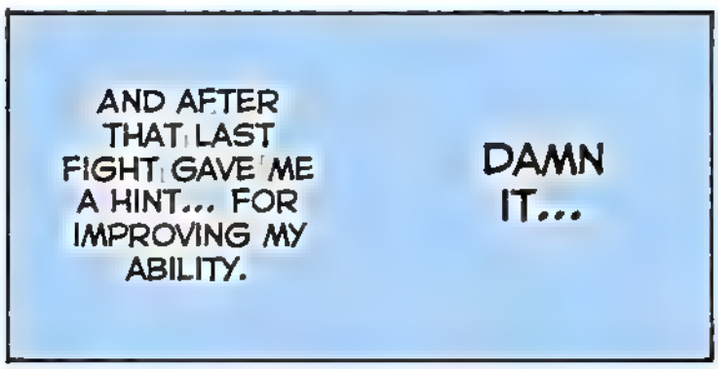
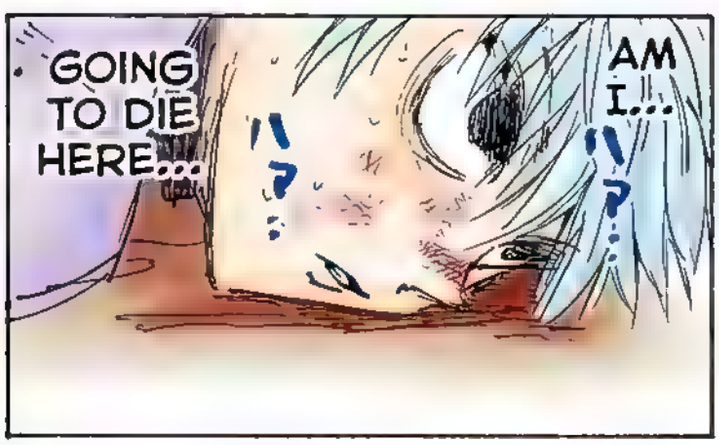
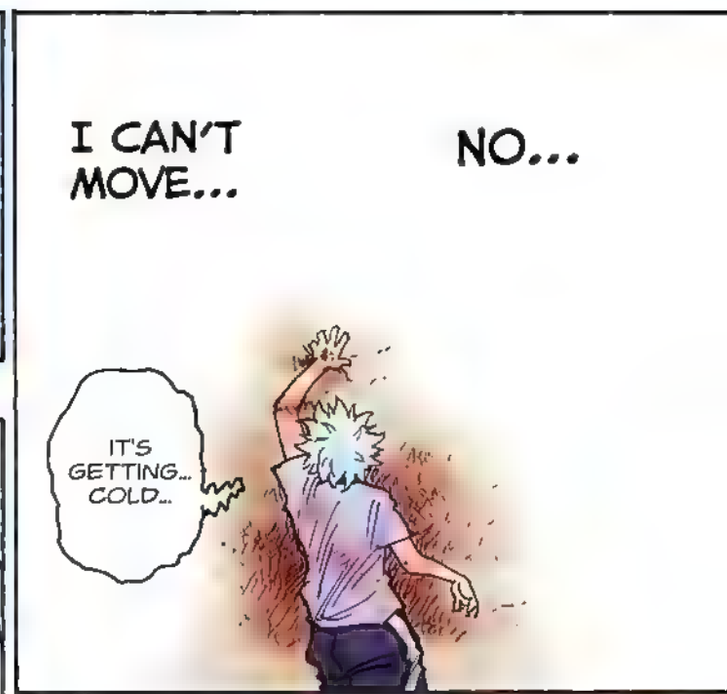
MY EYES ARE FADING...


AND AFTER THAT LAST FIGHT GAVE ME A HINT... FOR IMPROVING MY ABILITY.
DAMN IT...


GOING TO DIE HERE...
AM I...
ハ?
ハ?

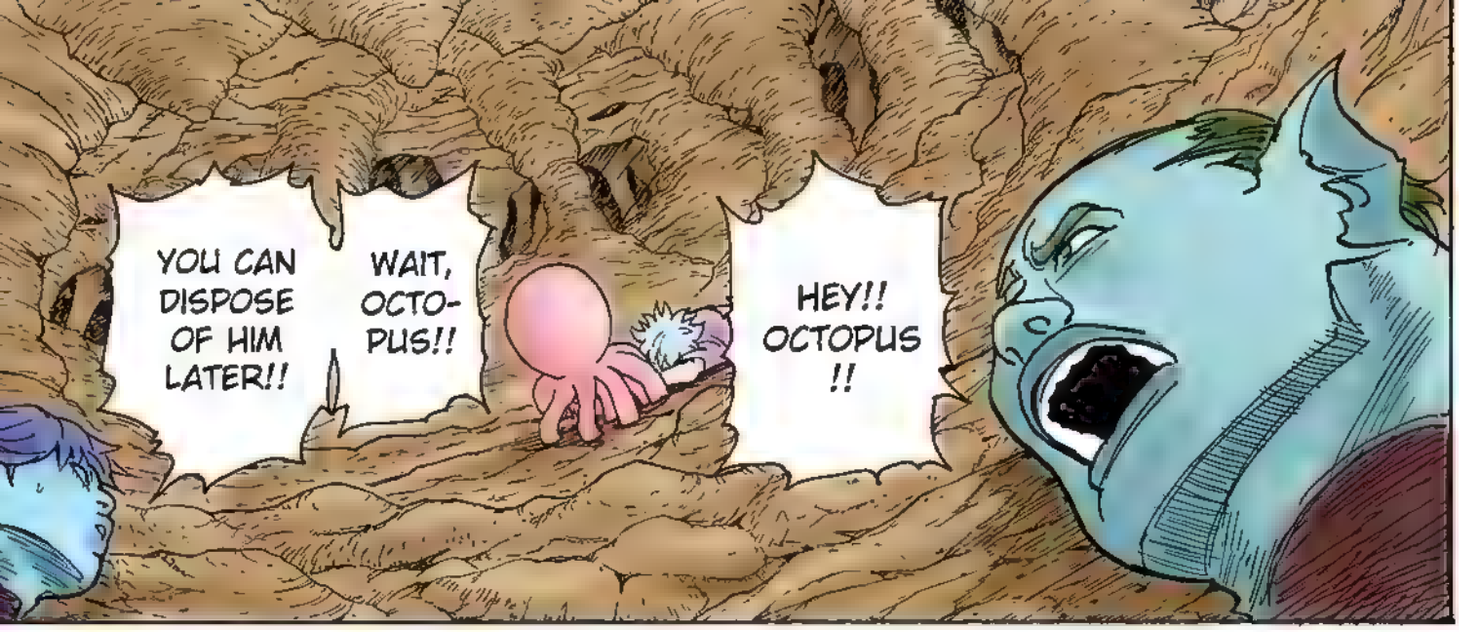

I CAN'T MOVE...
NO...
IT'S GETTING... COLD...

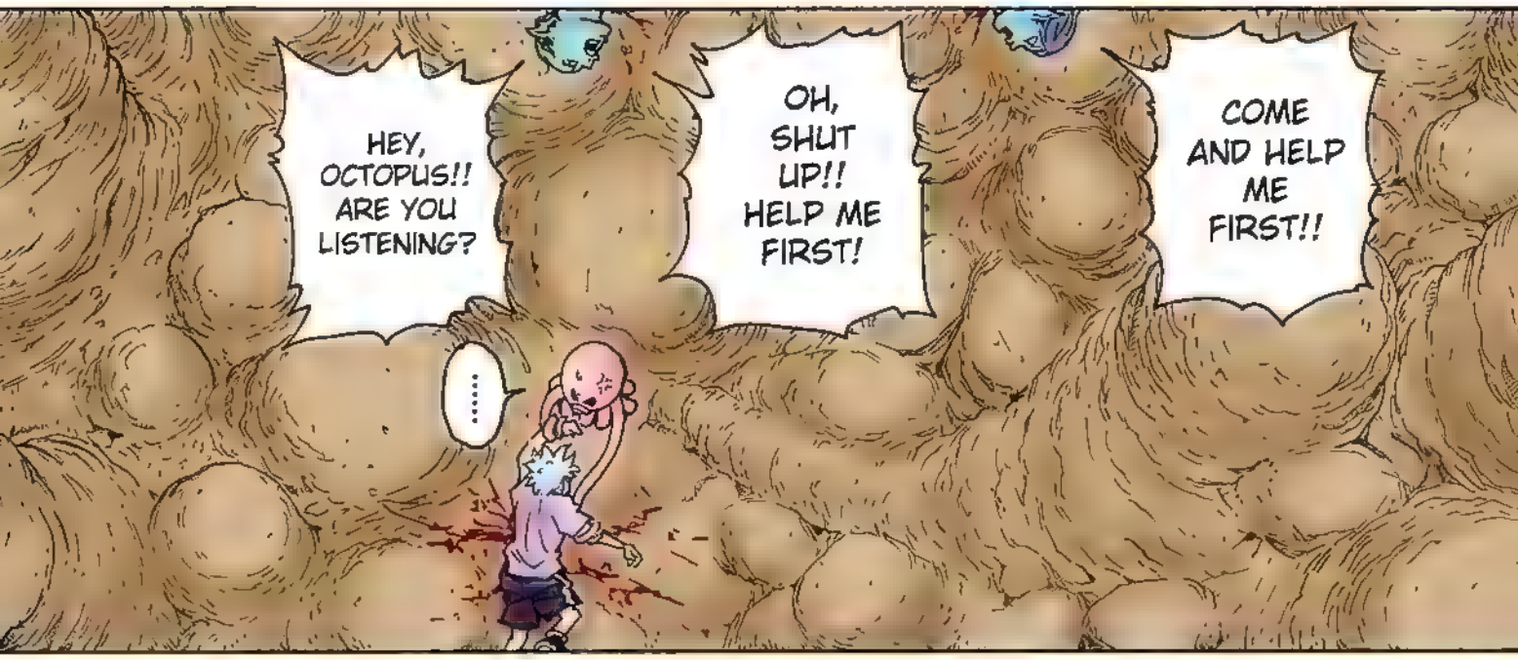
I'M SORRY...

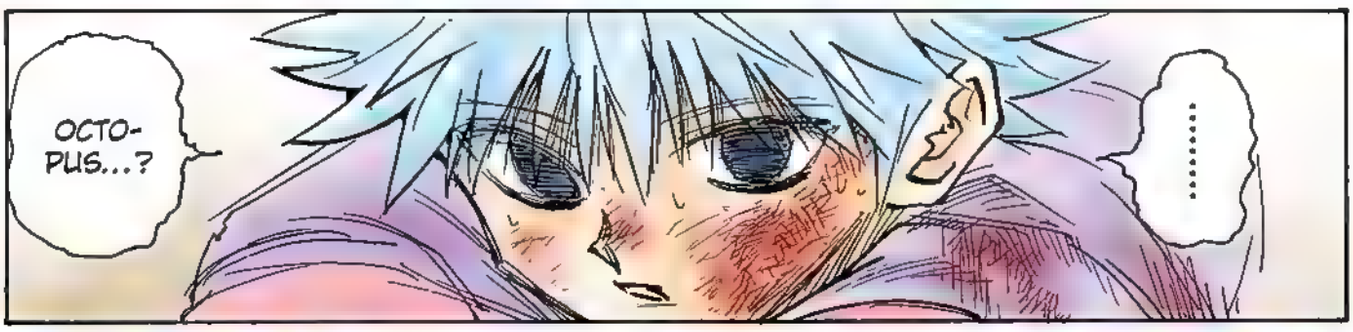
GON...

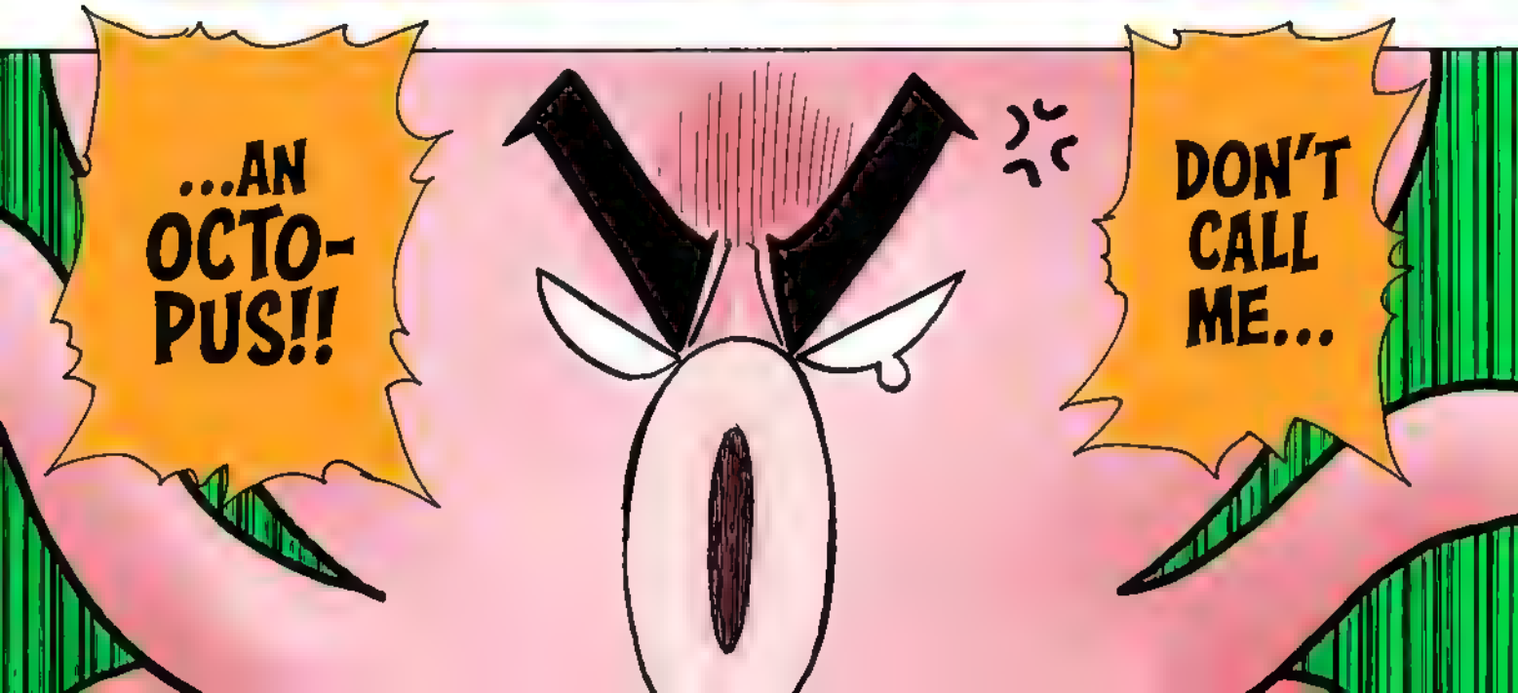
ANY... HELP...

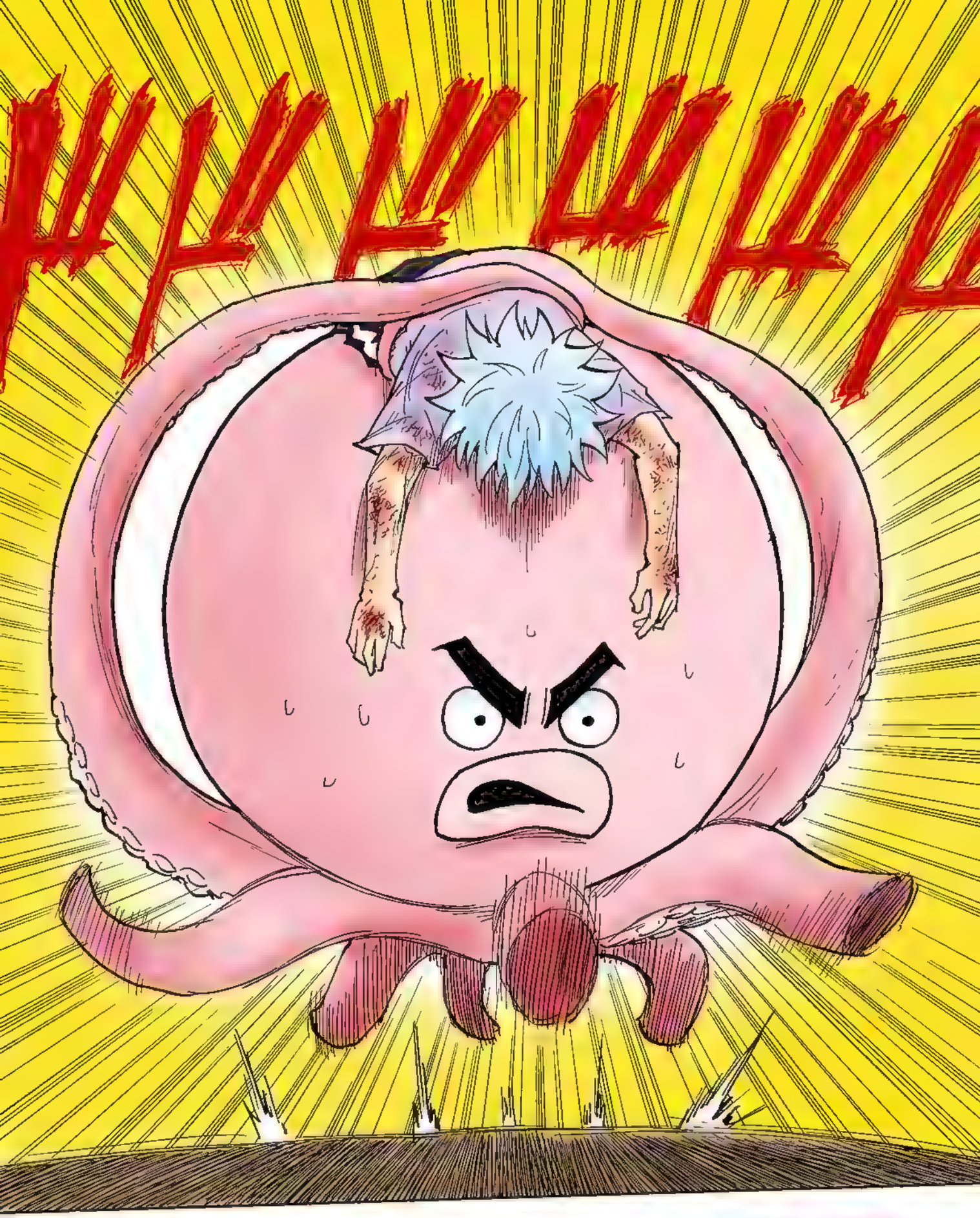
I WASN'T...

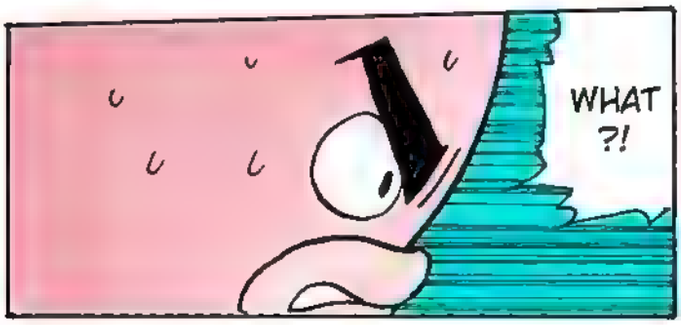

YOU CAN DISPOSE OF HIM LATER!!
WAIT, OCTO-PUS!!
HEY!! OCTOPUS !!

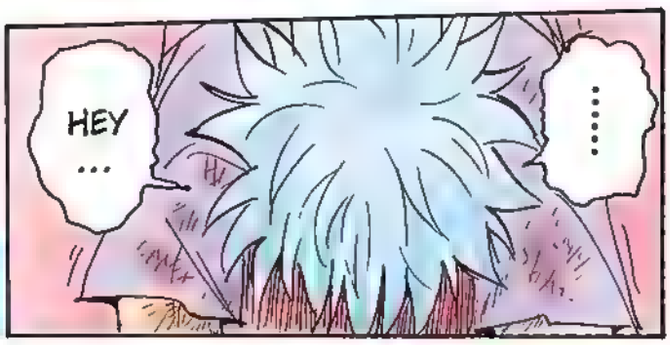

HEY, OCTOPUS!! ARE YOU LISTENING?
OH, SHUT UP!! HELP ME FIRST!
COME AND HELP ME FIRST!!
.....

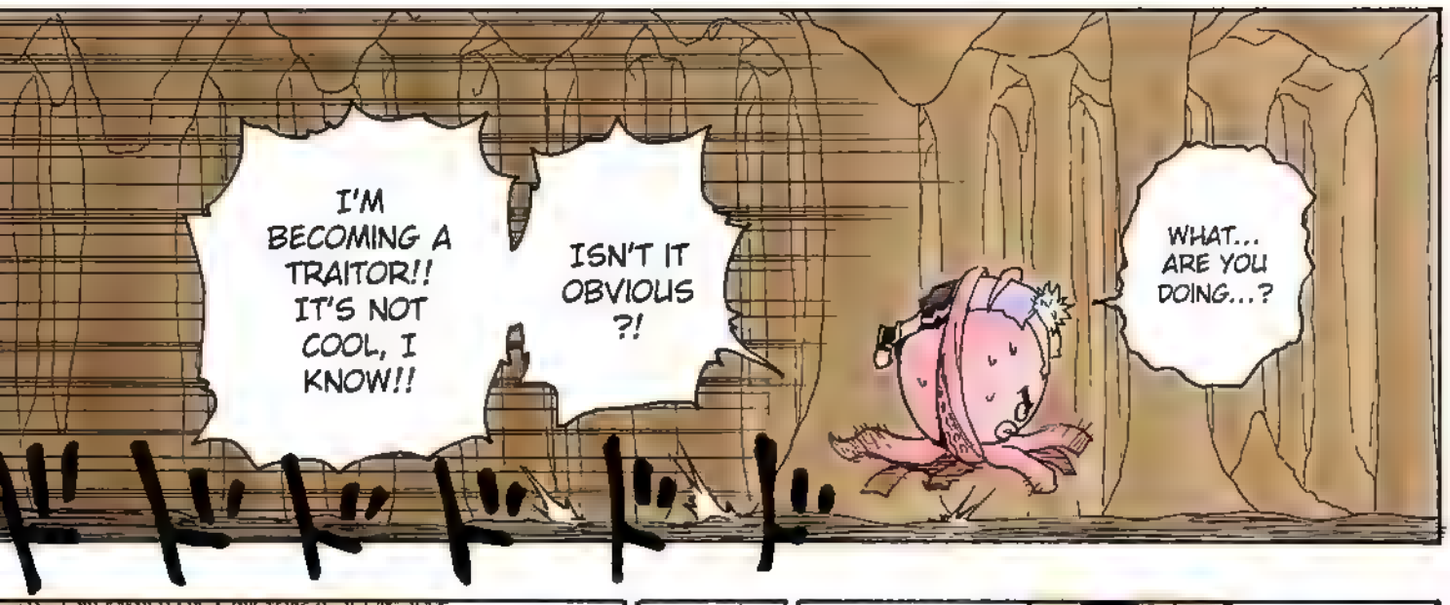

OCTO-PUS...?
.....


...AN OCTO-PUS!!
DON'T CALL ME...

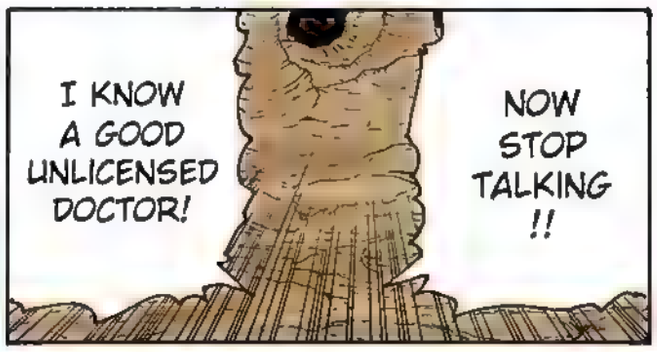


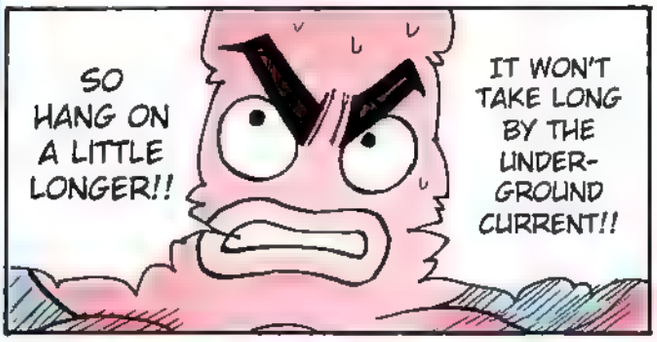

WHAT ?!

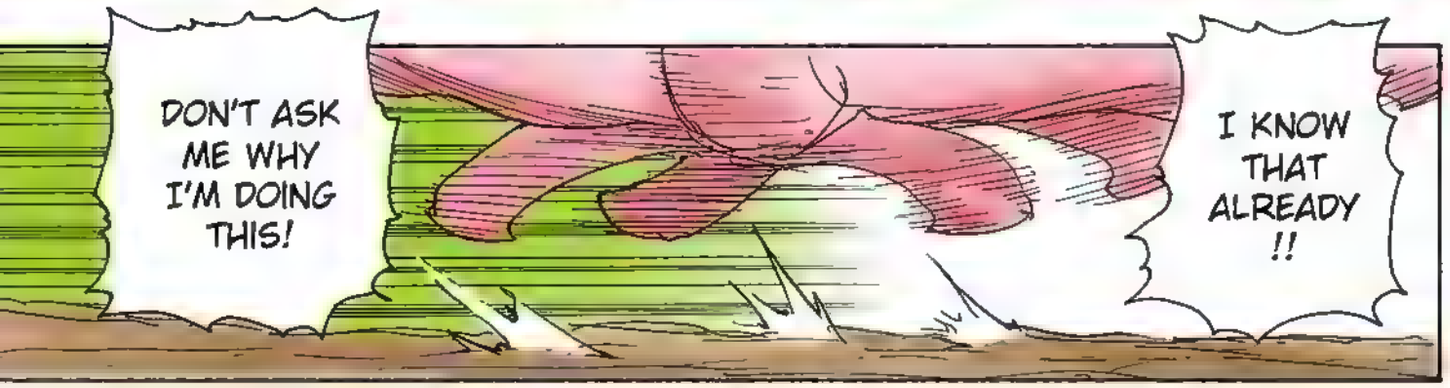

HEY ...
.....


I'M BECOMING A TRAITOR!! IT'S NOT COOL, I KNOW!!
ISN'T IT OBVIOUS ?!
WHAT... ARE YOU DOING...?

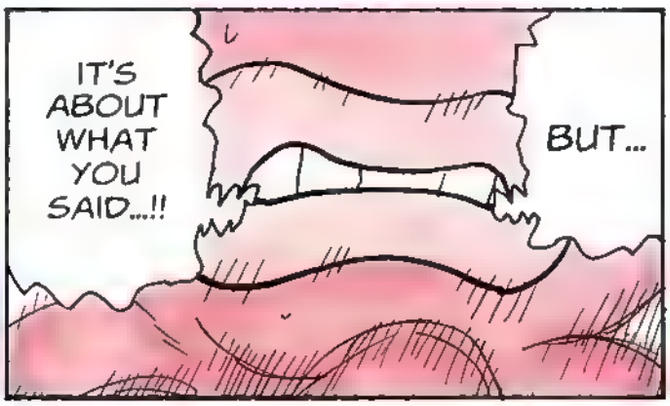
NOW... THEY'LL... COME... AFTER YOU TOO.
ARE YOU STUPID...? I SPARED... YOUR LIFE...
YEAH, I KNOW I AM!


I KNOW A GOOD UNLICENSED DOCTOR!
NOW STOP TALKING !!


SO HANG ON A LITTLE LONGER!!
IT WON'T TAKE LONG BY THE UNDER-GROUND CURRENT!!

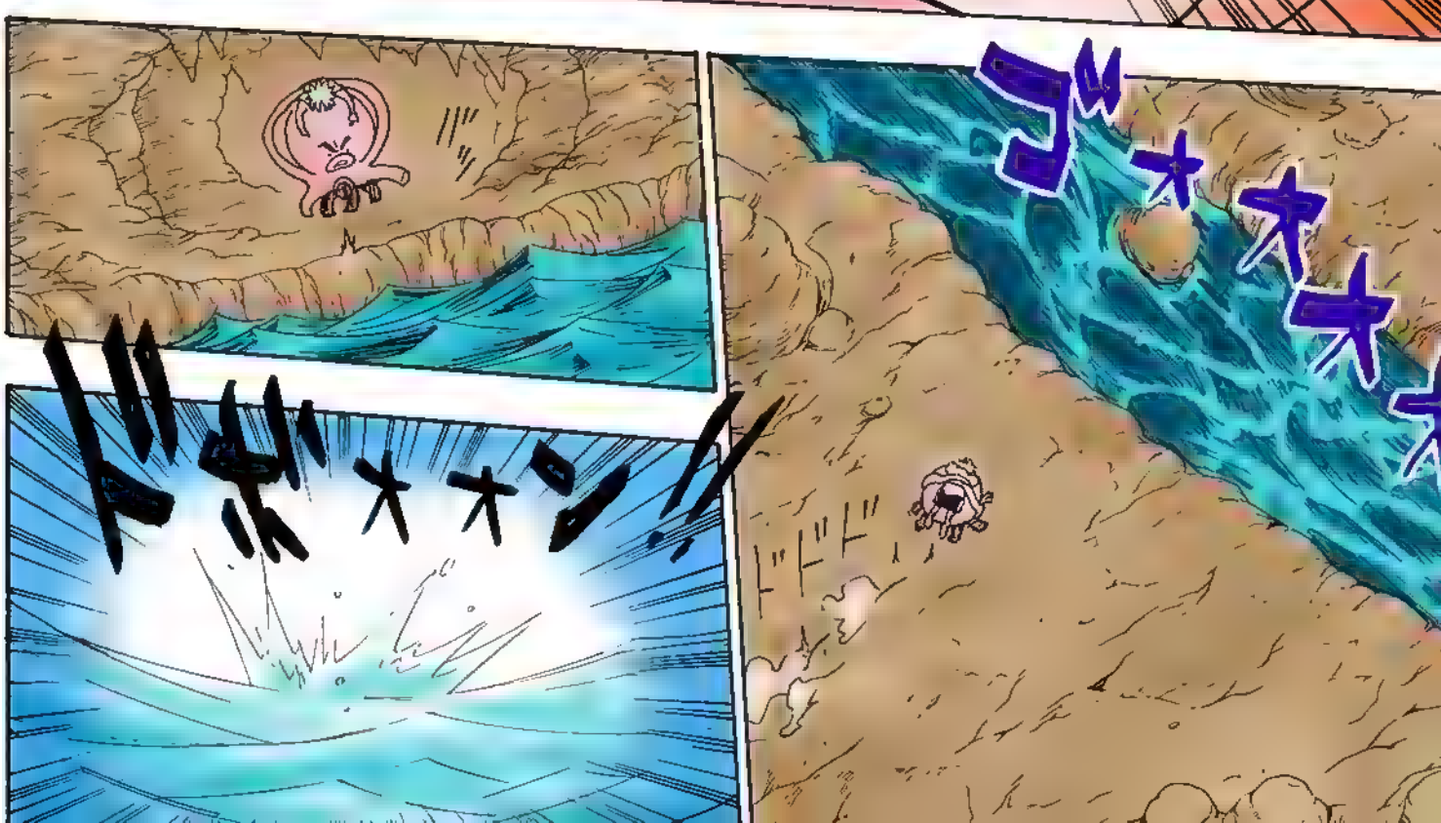

DON'T ASK ME WHY I'M DOING THIS!
I KNOW THAT ALREADY !!

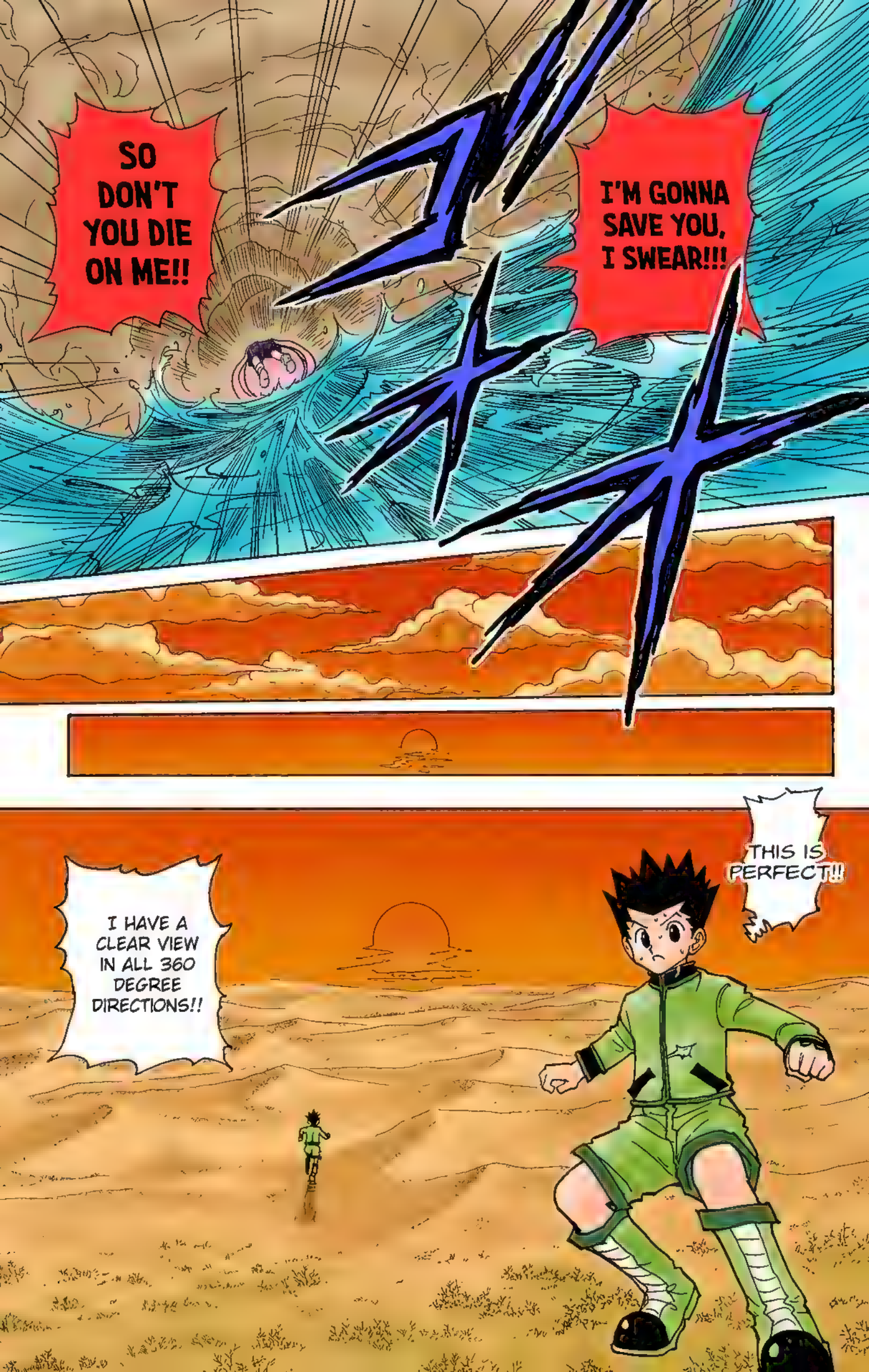
AND YOU SAID I WAS COOL...
YOU TOOK A GOOD FOR NOTHING OCTOPUS LIKE ME!!

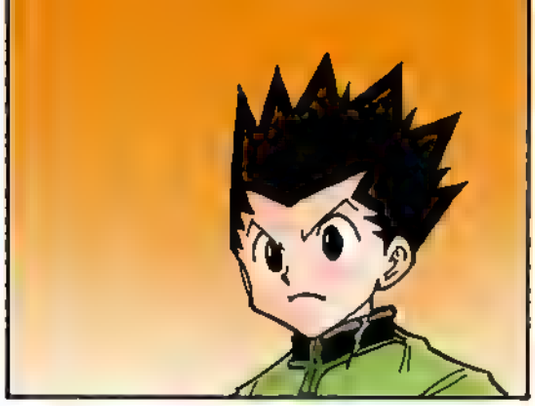

IT'S ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID...!!
BUT...

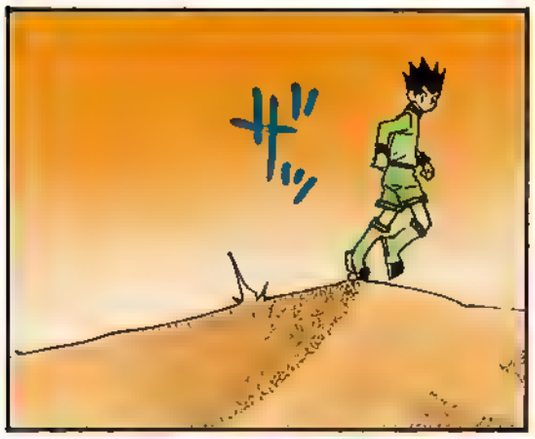
I CAN'T STAND BY AND WATCH YOU DIE!!!

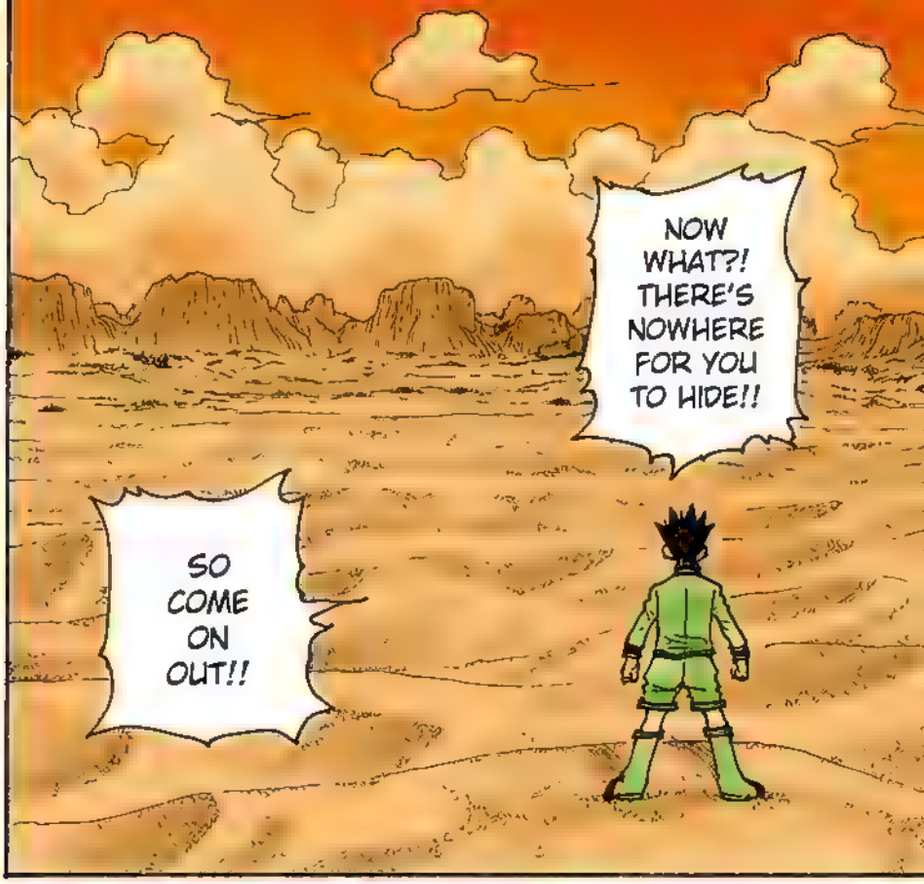
YOU EVEN SAID WE COULD'VE BEEN FRIENDS...!!

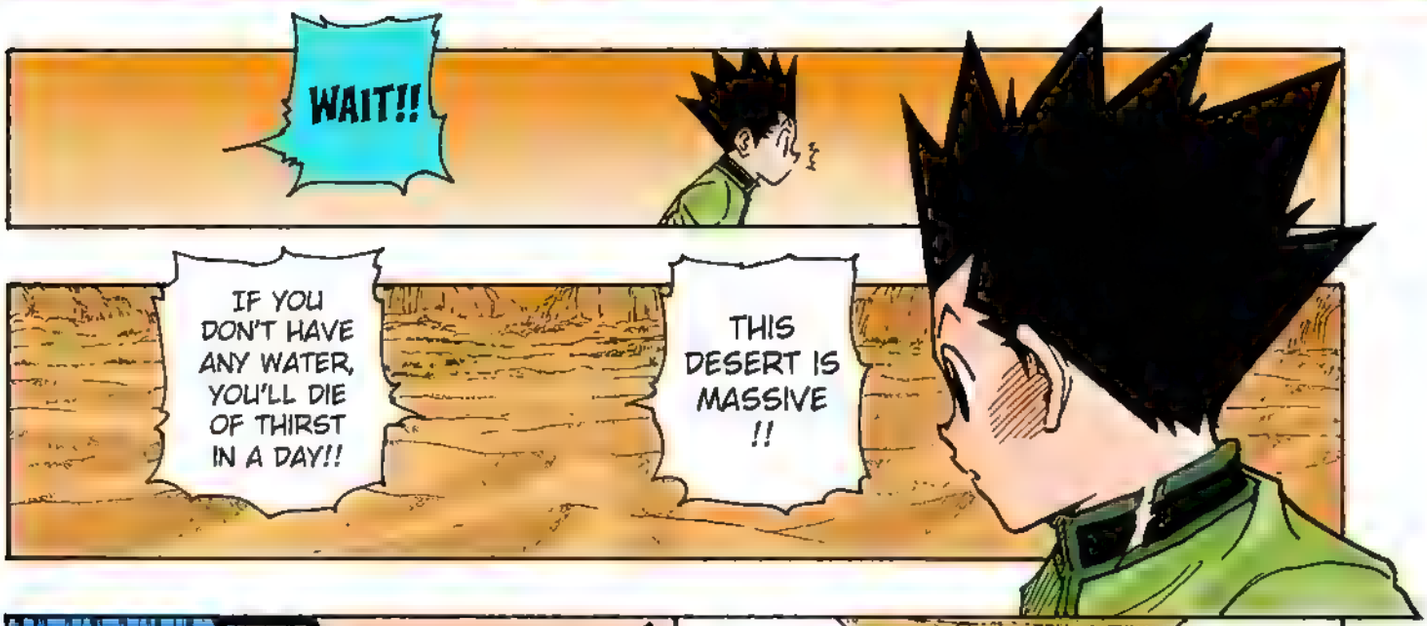


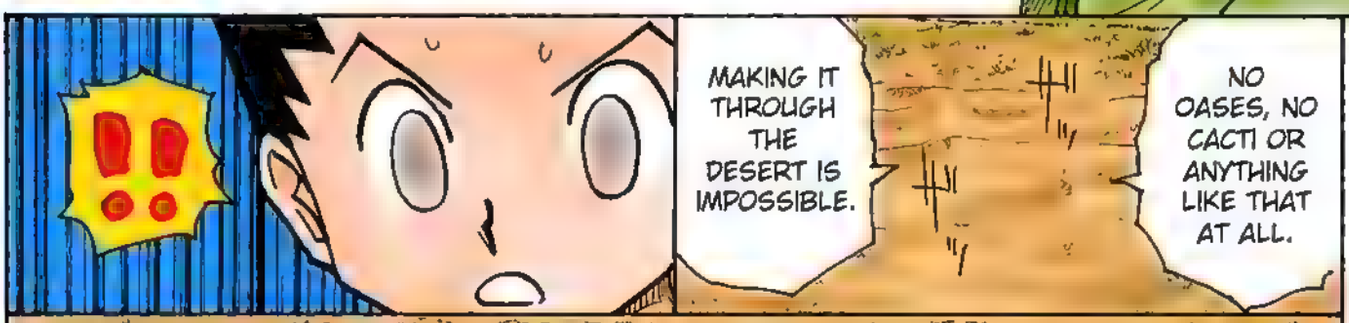

SO DON'T YOU DIE ON ME!!
I'M GONNA SAVE YOU, I SWEAR!!!
THIS IS PERFECT!!
I HAVE A CLEAR VIEW IN ALL 360 DEGREE DIRECTIONS!!






NOW WHAT?! THERE'S NOWHERE FOR YOU TO HIDE!!
SO COME ON OUT!!

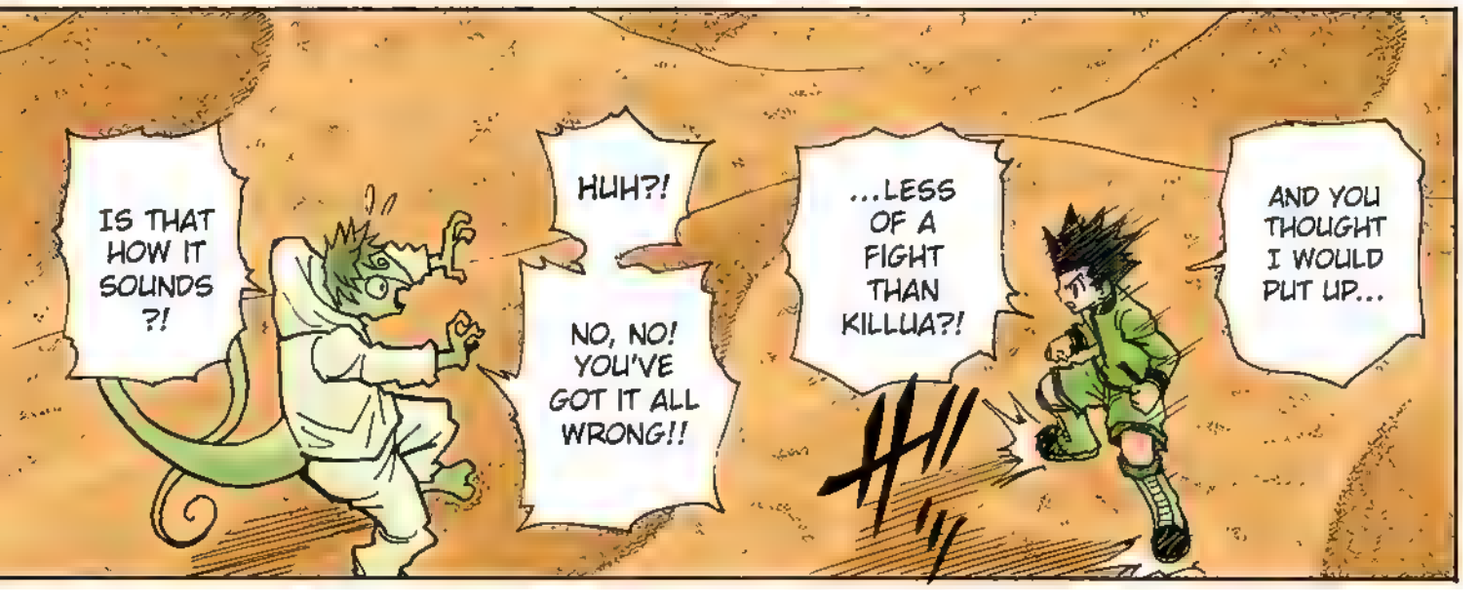

WAIT!!
IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY WATER, YOU'LL DIE OF THIRST IN A DAY!!
THIS DESERT IS MASSIVE !!


!!
MAKING IT THROUGH THE DESERT IS IMPOSSIBLE.
NO OASES, NO CACTI OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT AT ALL.

I WANTED TO OBSERVE YOU A LITTLE LONGER, BUT...
OH MAN...

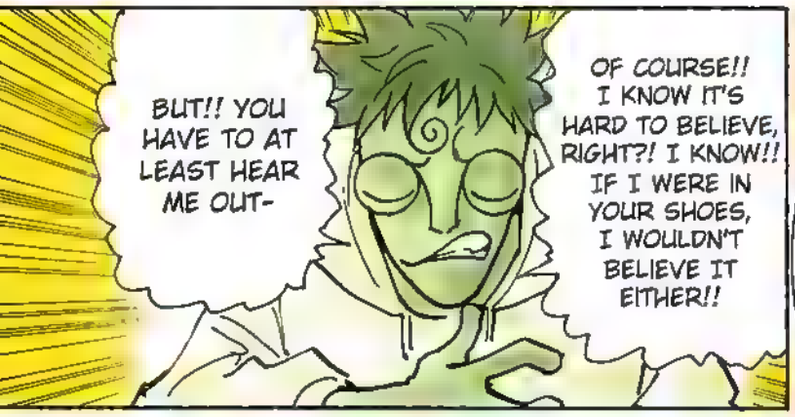
I SUPPOSED THIS GIVES US MORE TIME TO TALK THINGS OVER, EH?
I WAS RUNNING LOW ON STAMINA, ANYWAY.
MY NAME IS JAIL... SCRATCH THAT, IT'S MELEORON.
LET'S BEGIN WITH INTRODUC-TIONS.
WHY WERE YOU FOLLOWING ME?
.....
AND I COULDN'T LET YOU DIE, NOW COULD I?
I DIDN'T WANT TO LET YOU GET AWAY.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
WHEN THE QUEEN WAS ALIVE, I WAS A SQUADRON LEADER.
WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

BECAUSE YOU'LL BE A VALUABLE PARTNER, YA SEE?
!?
...THAT WAS CLOSE !!
HE MUST HAVE A REASON FOR APPROACHING ME.
I CAN'T TELL HIM ANYTHING!
?
YOU HAVE BUSINESS WITH THE KING, RIGHT?
I DO NOT!
.....
NOW I GET IT.
ゴ"
ゴ"
ゴ"
ゴ"
ゴ"
ゴ"
!?
"YOU GUYS?"
.....
AREN'T YOU GUYS HERE TO DEFEAT THE KING?
REALLY ?
I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU SINCE THAT OTHER KID WAS WITH YOU.
HEH HEH. THAT'S RIGHT.
YEP.

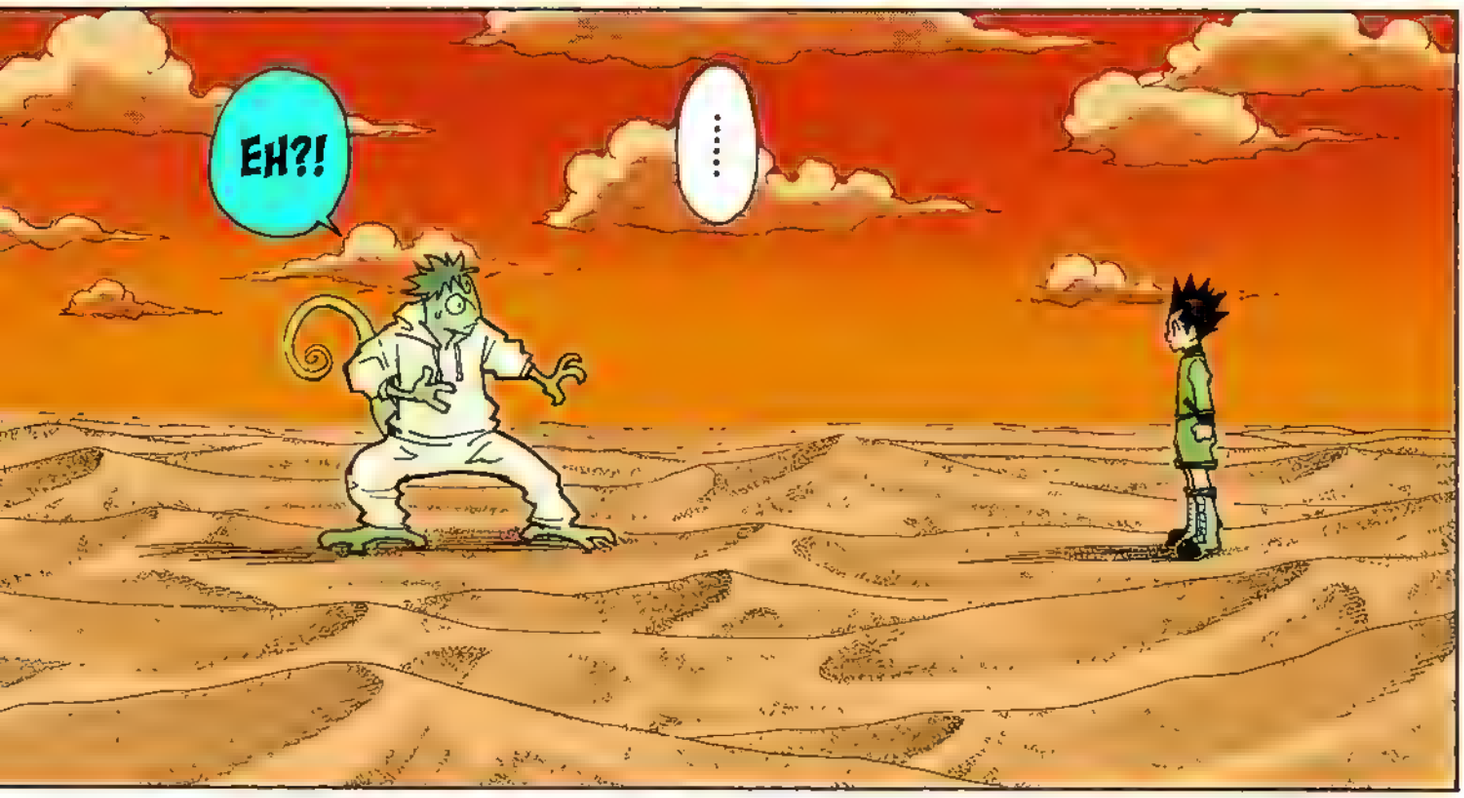

IS THAT HOW IT SOUNDS ?!
HUH?!
NO, NO! YOU'VE GOT IT ALL WRONG!!
...LESS OF A FIGHT THAN KILLUA?!
AND YOU THOUGHT I WOULD PUT UP...

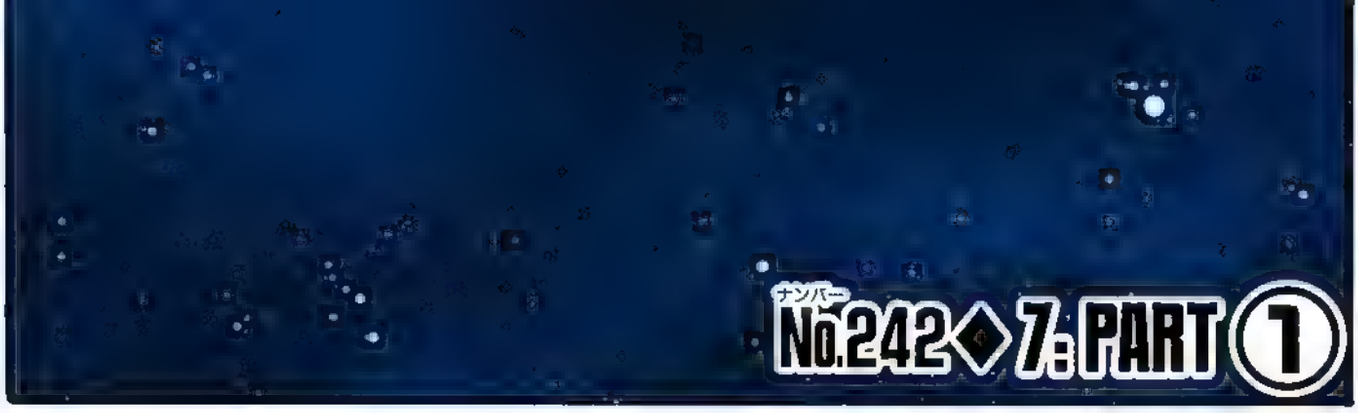
I'M NOT LOOKING TO TRICK YOU OR TO FIGHT YOU!!
LISTEN!! I SWEAR THAT I'M NOT LYING.
...

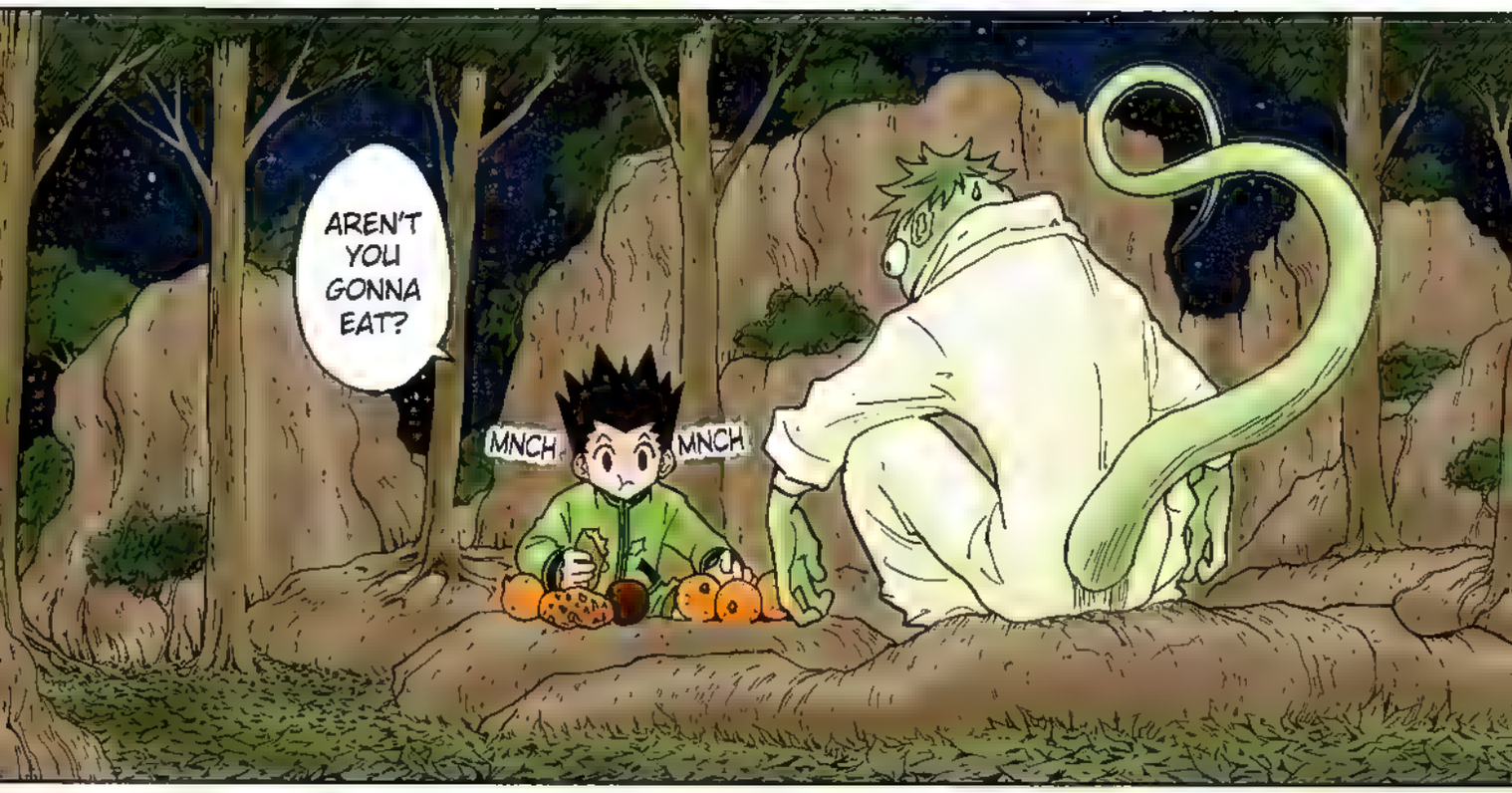
I GUESS I SHOULD CLEAR UP THE MISUNDER-STANDING FIRST.
I GUESS IT MAKES SENSE... TO YOU, I'D LOOK LIKE AN ENEMY.


BUT!! YOU HAVE TO AT LEAST HEAR ME OUT-
OF COURSE!! I KNOW IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE, RIGHT?! I KNOW!! IF I WERE IN YOUR SHOES, I WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT EITHER!!

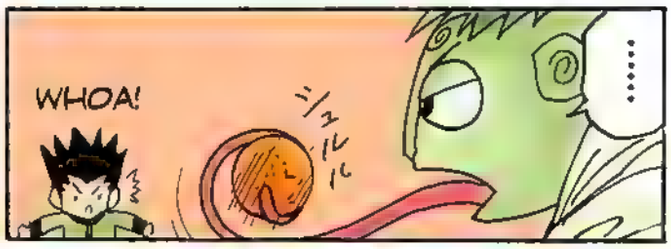
OKAY.
I BELIEVE YOU.

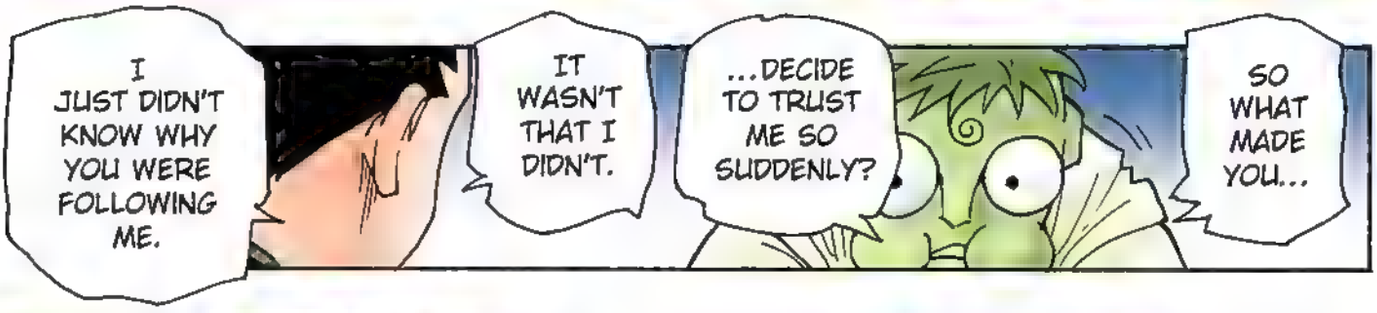

EH?!
.....


No.242◆7: PART 1

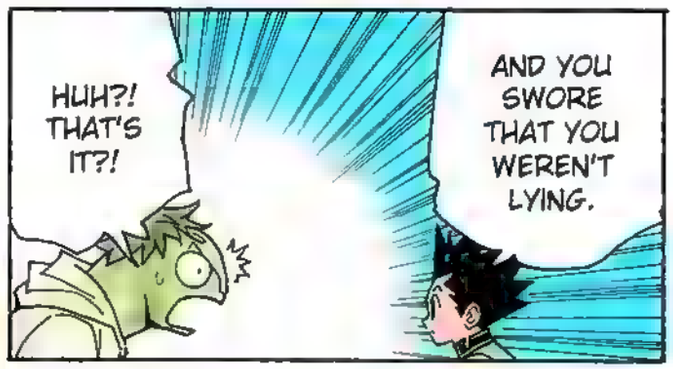

AREN'T YOU GONNA EAT?
MNCH
MNCH

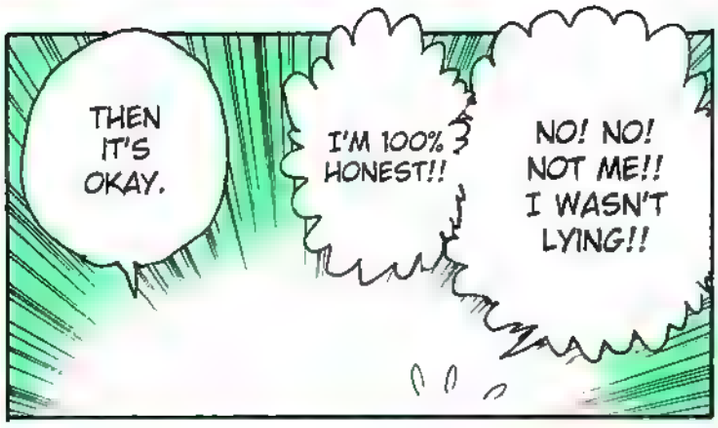
WHAT IS IT?
MNCH... MNCH...
CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?

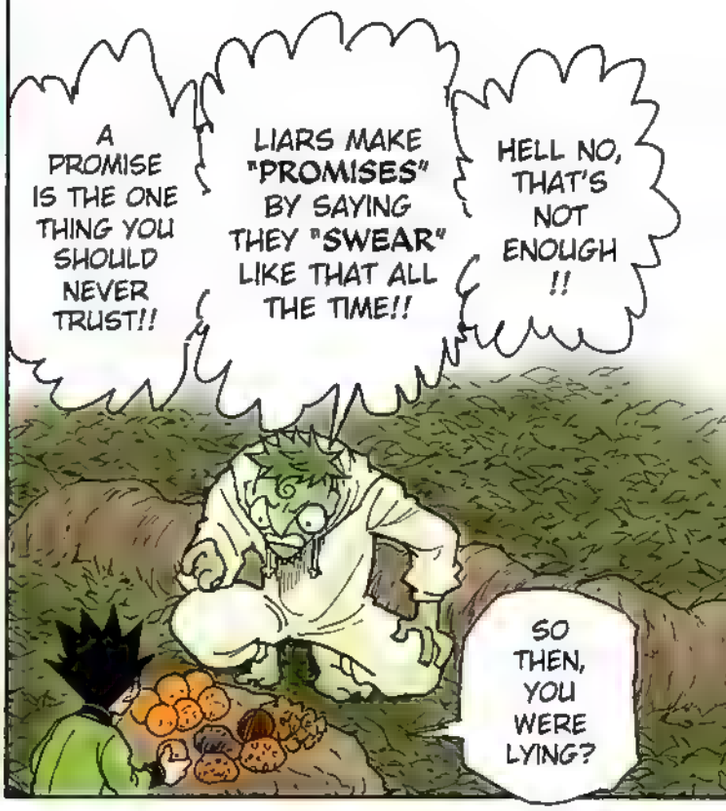

WHOA!
シュルル
.....

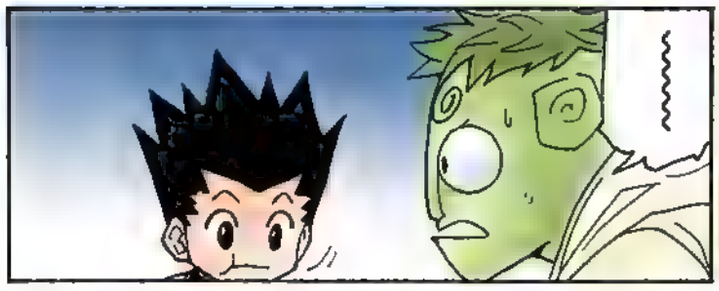

I JUST DIDN'T KNOW WHY YOU WERE FOLLOWING ME.
IT WASN'T THAT I DIDN'T.
...DECIDE TO TRUST ME SO SUDDENLY?
SO WHAT MADE YOU...

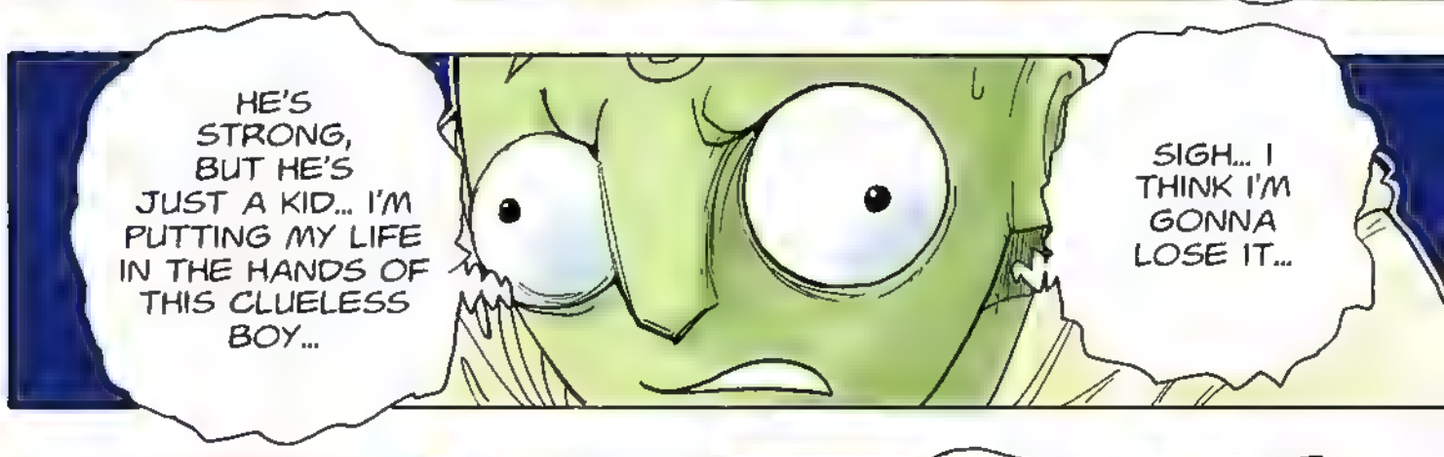
ISN'T THAT ENOUGH ?!
WAS THERE NO OTHER REASON ?!


HUH?! THAT'S IT?!
AND YOU SWORE THAT YOU WEREN'T LYING.


THEN IT'S OKAY.
I'M 100% HONEST!!
NO! NO! NOT ME!! I WASN'T LYING!!


A PROMISE IS THE ONE THING YOU SHOULD NEVER TRUST!!
LIARS MAKE "PROMISES" BY SAYING THEY "SWEAR" LIKE THAT ALL THE TIME!!
HELL NO, THAT'S NOT ENOUGH !!
SO THEN, YOU WERE LYING?

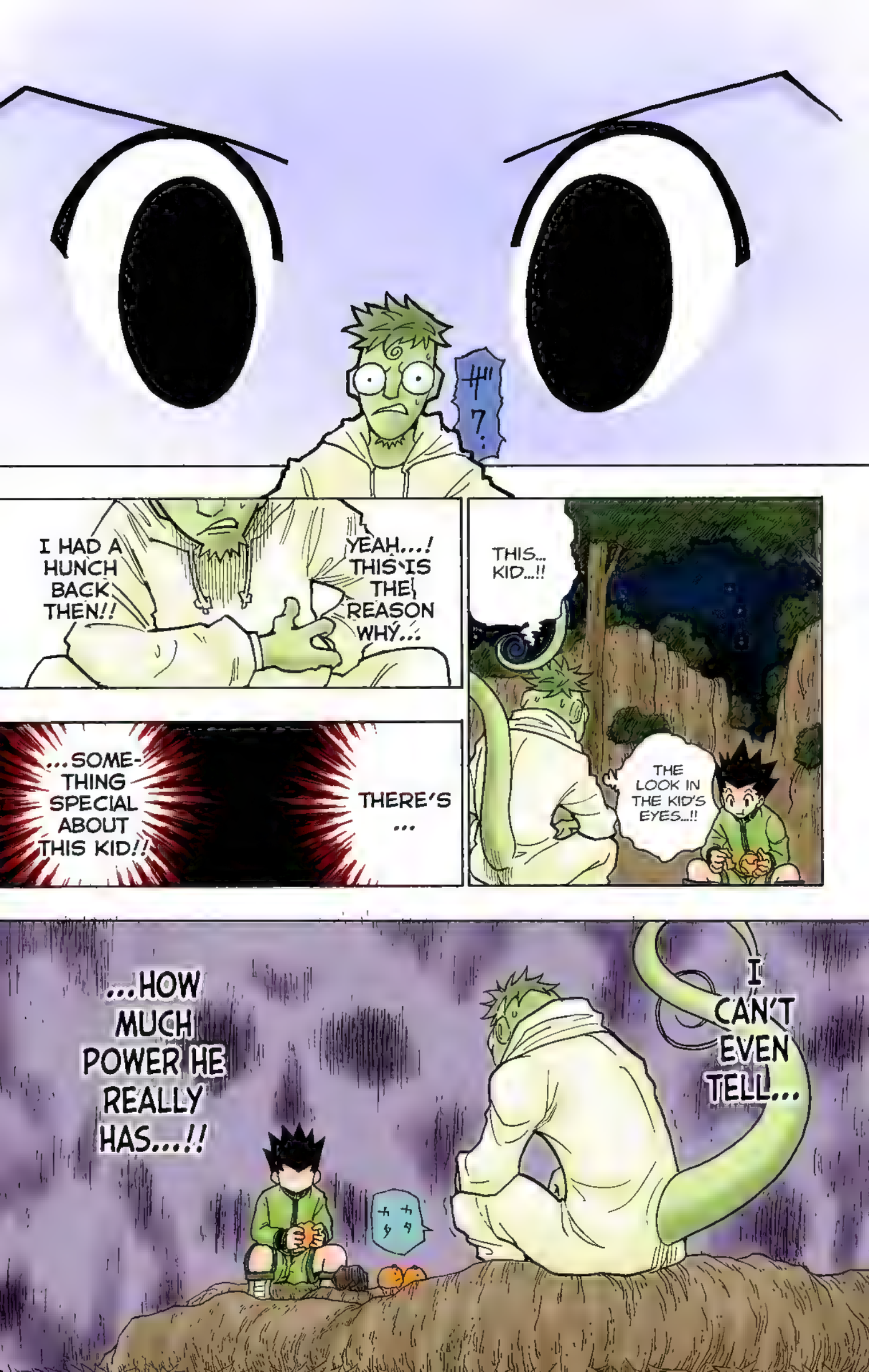


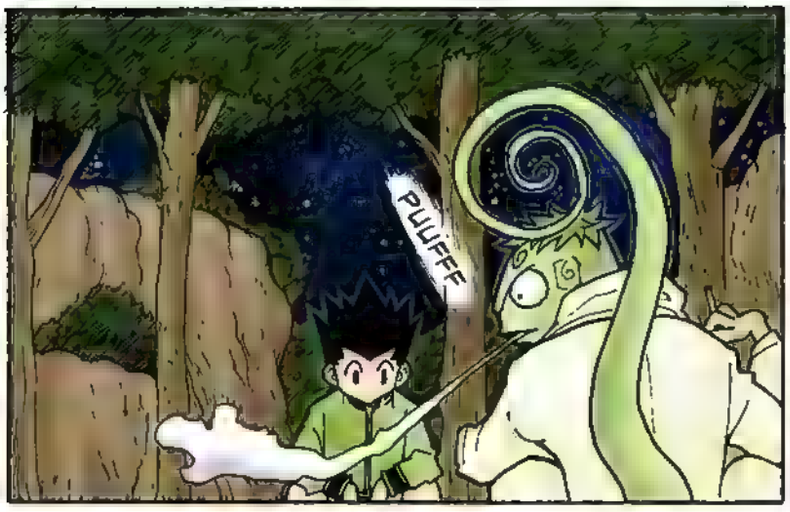

HE'S STRONG, BUT HE'S JUST A KID... I'M PUTTING MY LIFE IN THE HANDS OF THIS CLUELESS BOY...
SIGH... I THINK I'M GONNA LOSE IT...

I WON'T HAVE TO SHOW YOU ANY MERCY.

EASIER ?
...IF YOU WERE, THAT WOULD MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR ME.
MNCH MNCH
BESIDES ...

I'D BE ABLE TO KILL YOU WITHOUT RESER-VATION.


I HAD A HUNCH BACK THEN!!
YEAH...! THIS IS THE REASON WHY...
THIS... KID...!!
THE LOOK IN THE KID'S EYES...!!
...SOMETHING SPECIAL ABOUT THIS KID!!
THERE'S ...
...HOW MUCH POWER HE REALLY HAS...!!
I CAN'T EVEN TELL...

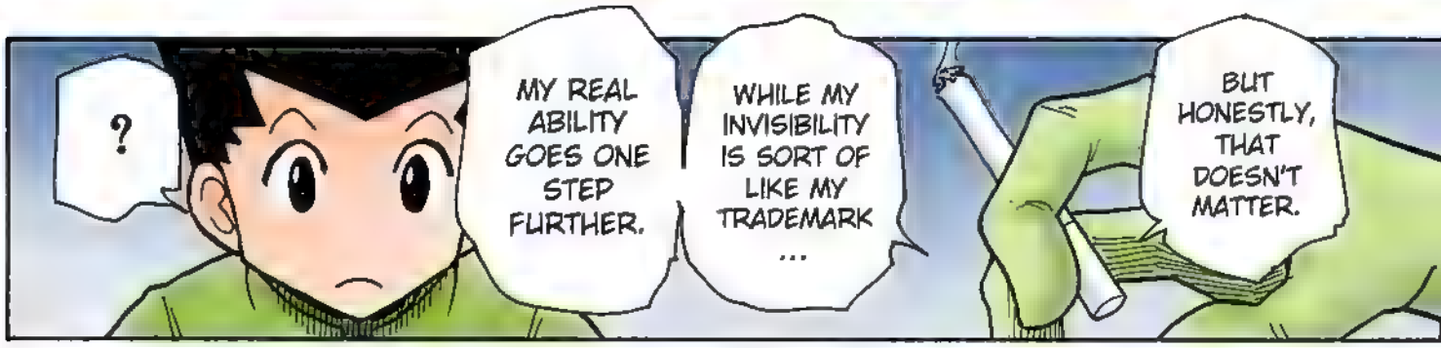

PUUFFF

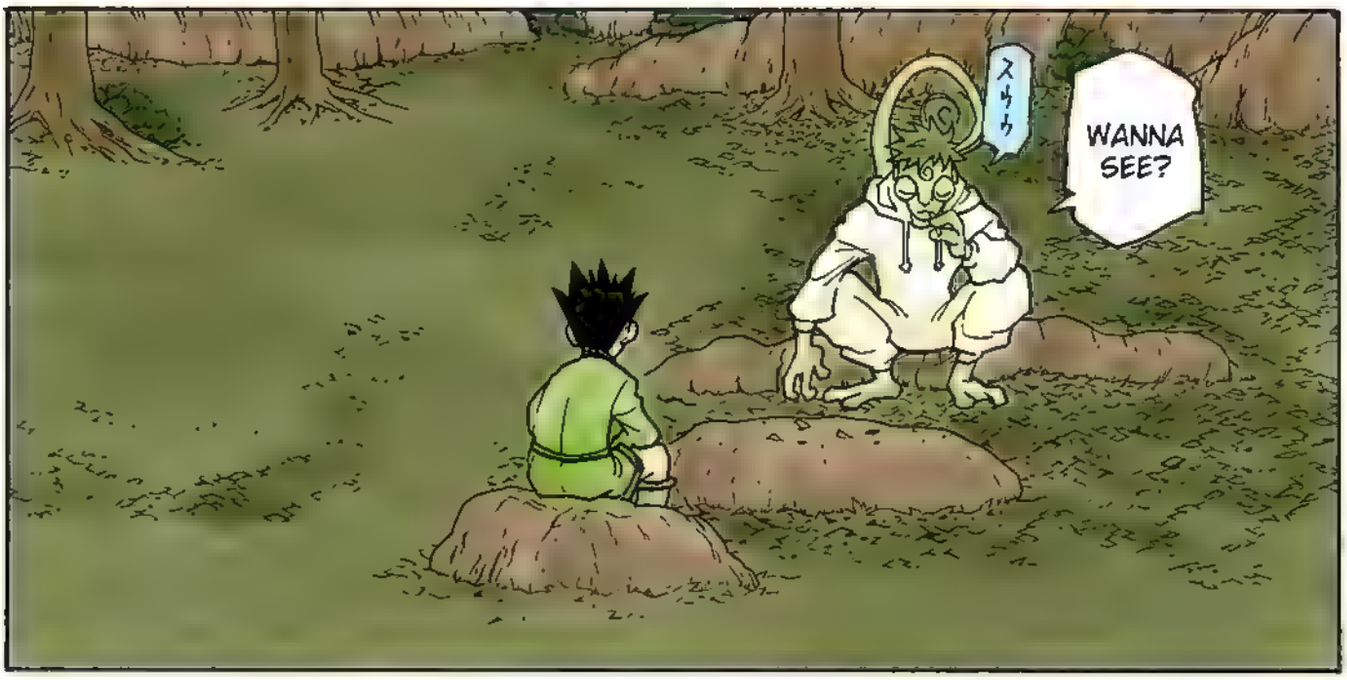
カチッ

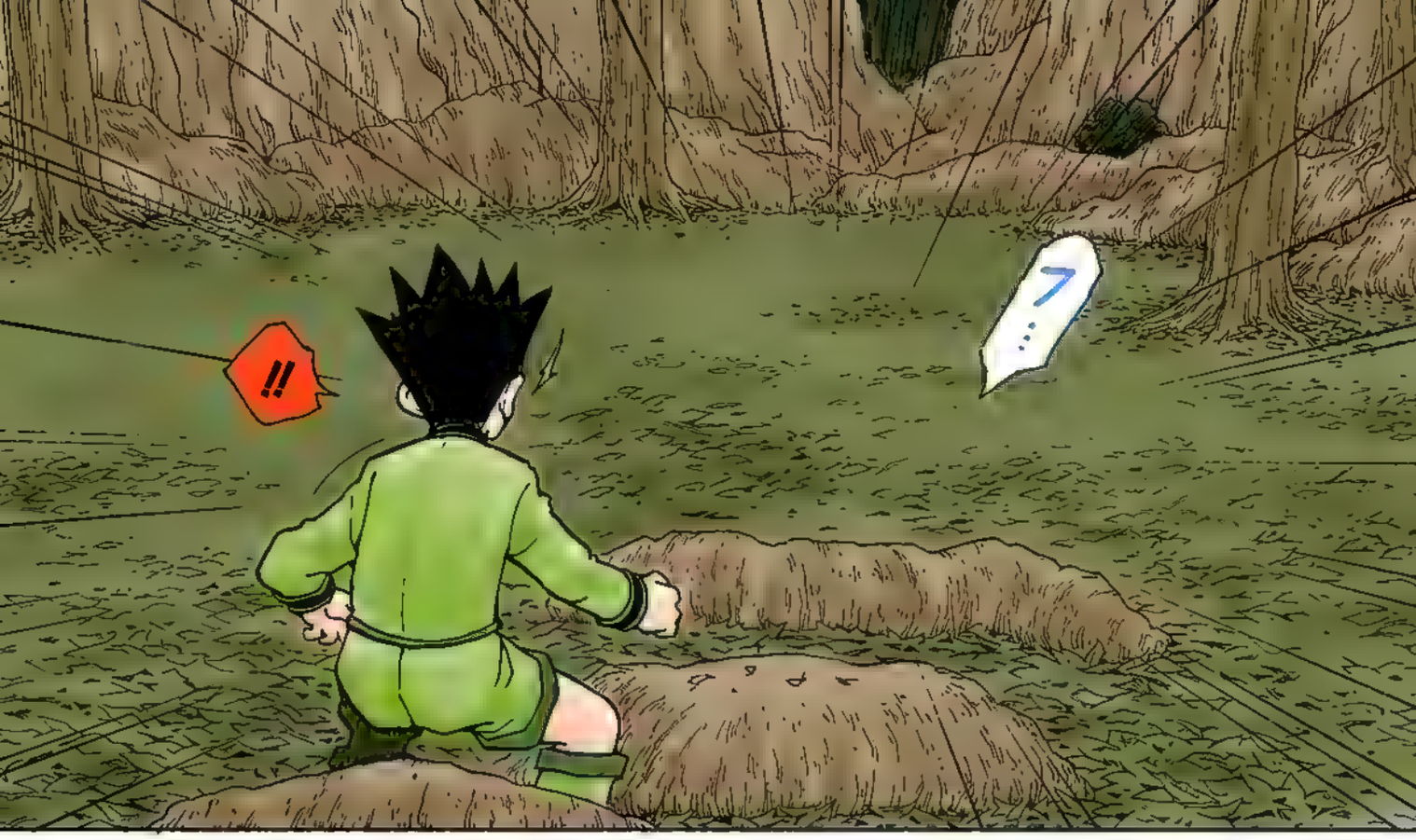
HM?
YOU SHOULD STOP SMOKING.

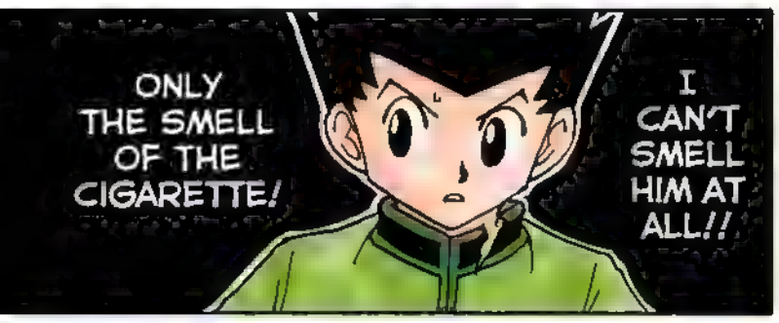
I APPRECIATE THE WARNING.
HEH HEH ...

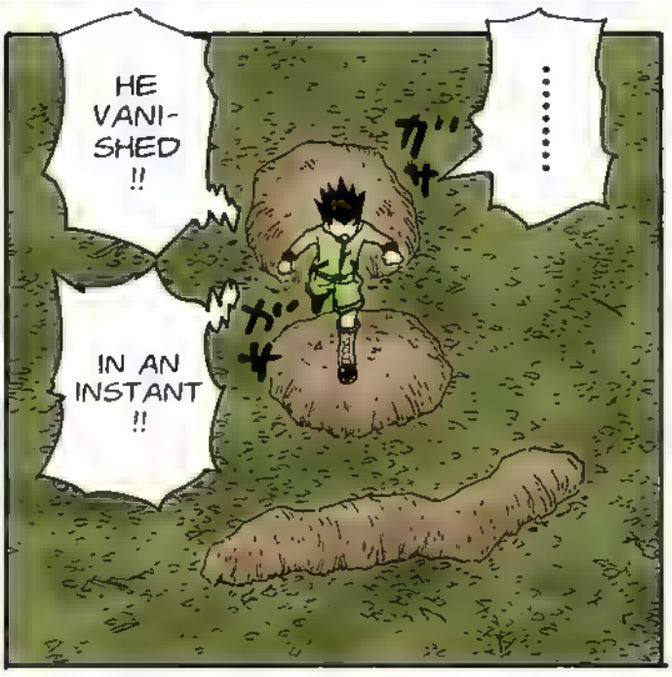
IT WASTES YOUR ABILITY TO BE INVISIBLE.
THE SMOKE WILL STICK TO YOU AND PEOPLE WILL SMELL YOU COMING.


?
MY REAL ABILITY GOES ONE STEP FURTHER.
WHILE MY INVISIBILITY IS SORT OF LIKE MY TRADEMARK ...
BUT HONESTLY, THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

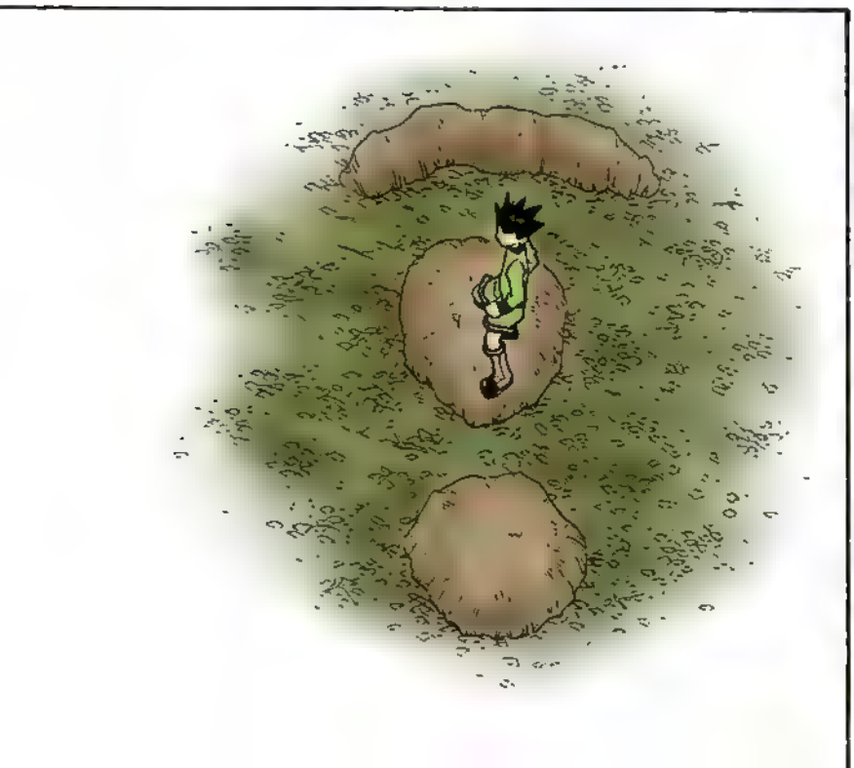

スリッ
WANNA SEE?

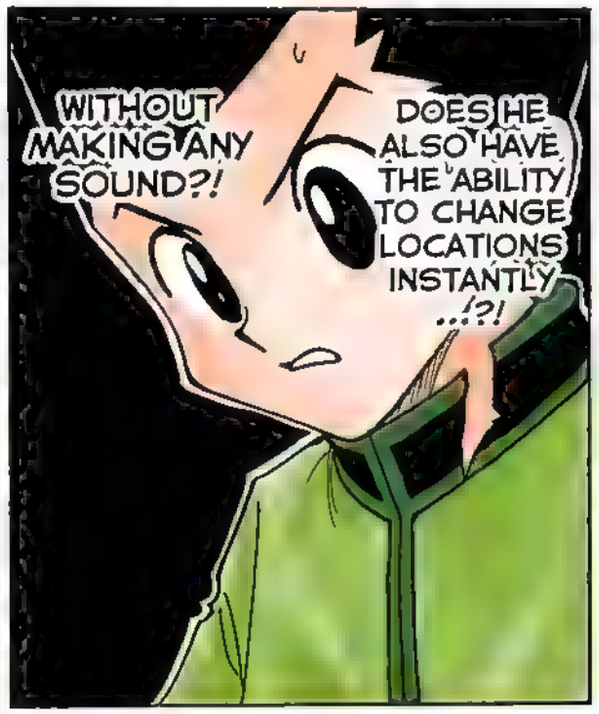

!!
?

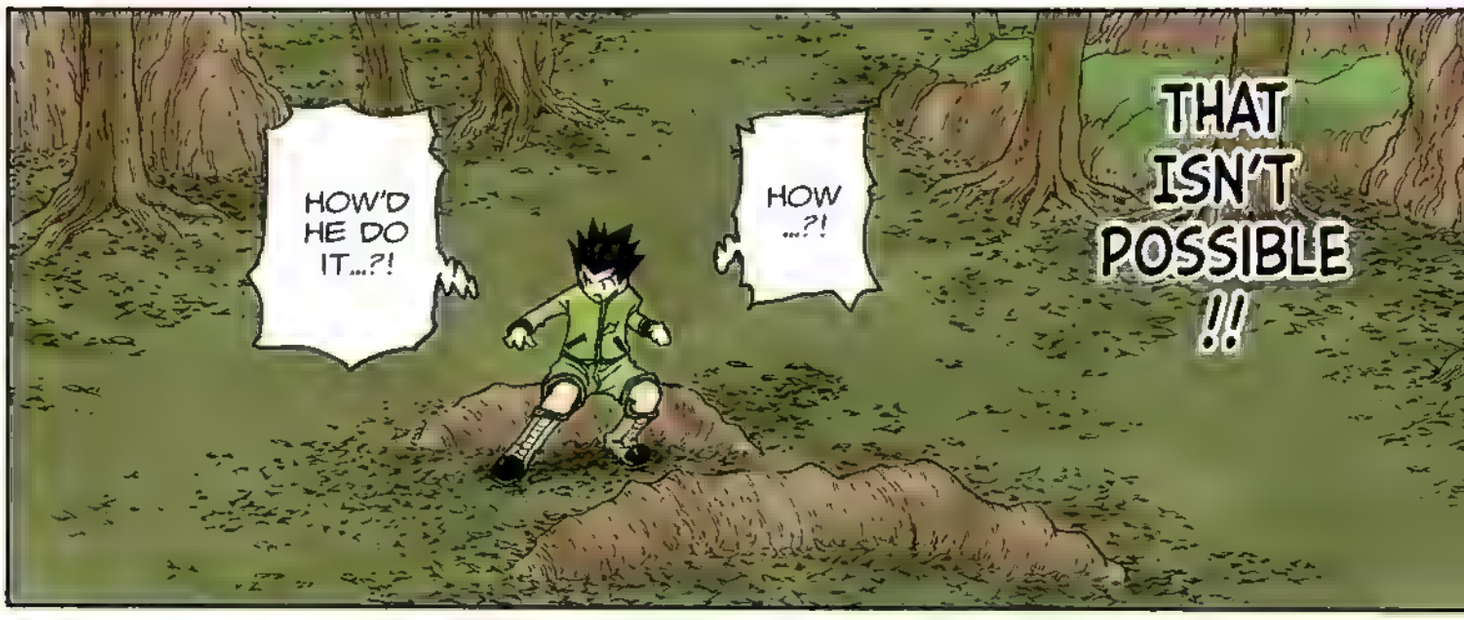

ONLY THE SMELL OF THE CIGARETTE!
I CAN'T SMELL HIM AT ALL!!

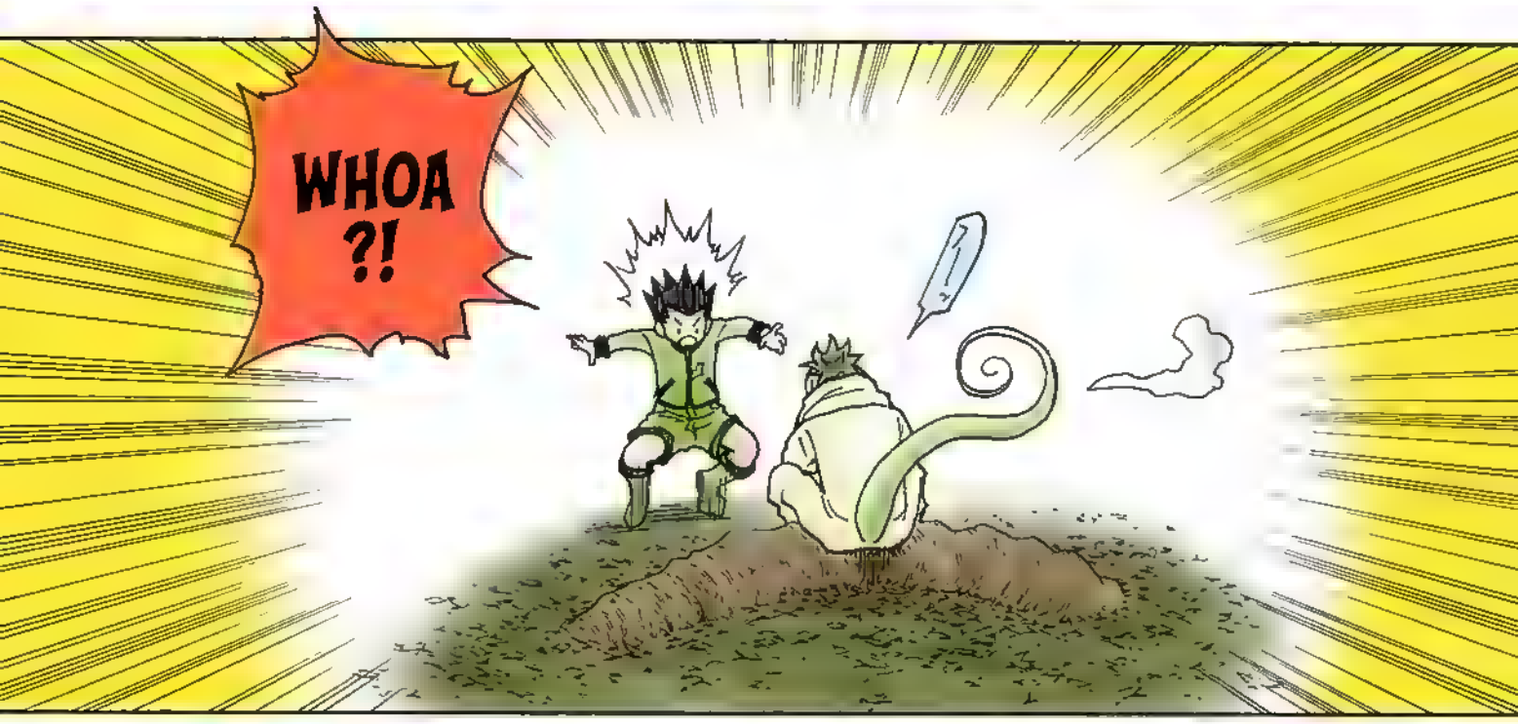

.....
HE VANI-SHED !!
IN AN INSTANT !!

.....
HE'S GONE ..!!
THIS ISN'T JUST MERE INVISI-BILITY.



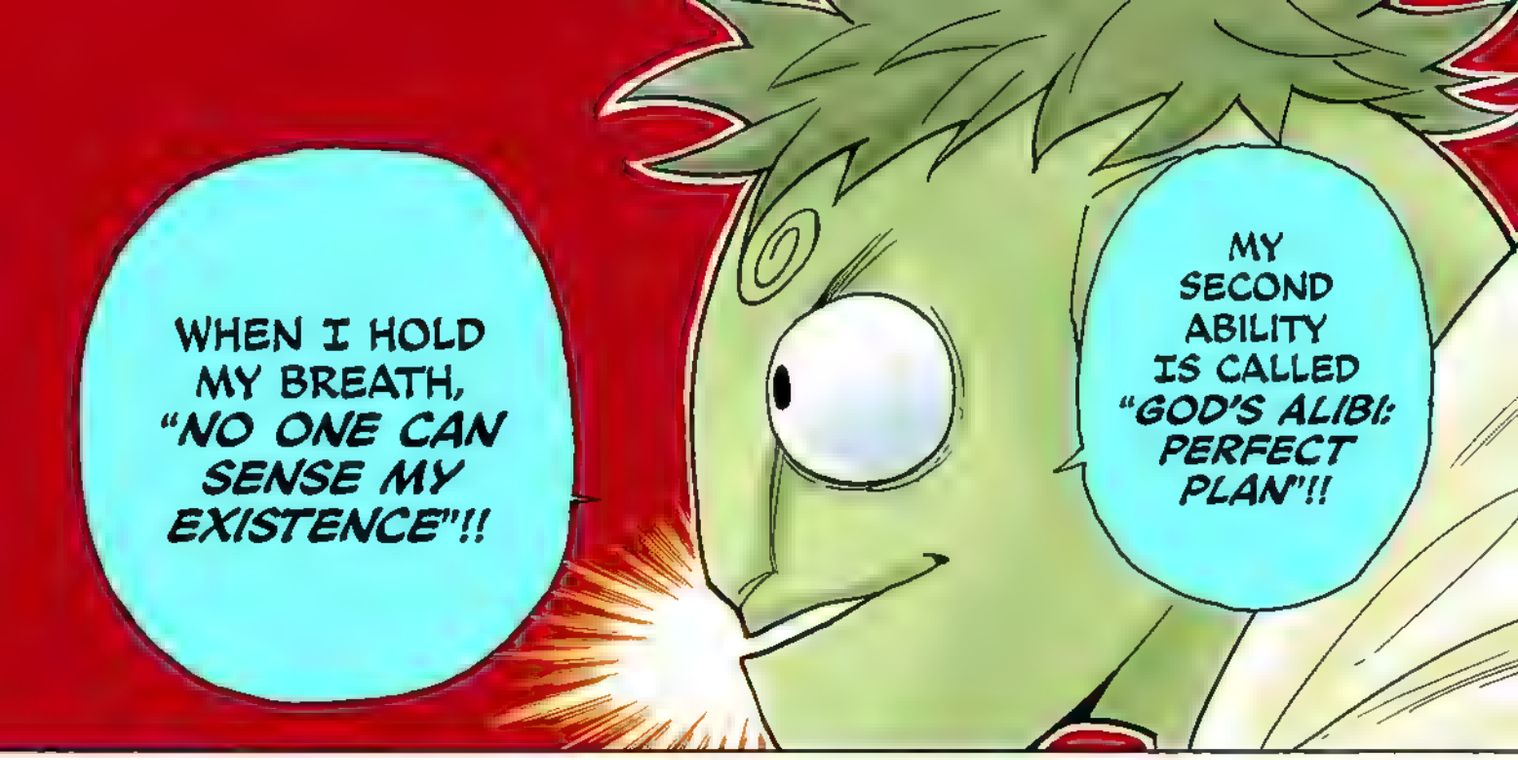

WITHOUT MAKING ANY SOUND?!
DOES HE ALSO HAVE THE ABILITY TO CHANGE LOCATIONS INSTANTLY ...!?!


HOW'D HE DO IT...?!
HOW ...?!
THAT ISN'T POSSIBLE !!


WHOA ?!

WASN'T I HERE THE ENTIRE TIME?
HM?
HUH ?!
!?

WHERE DID YOU COME FROM...
WHA...

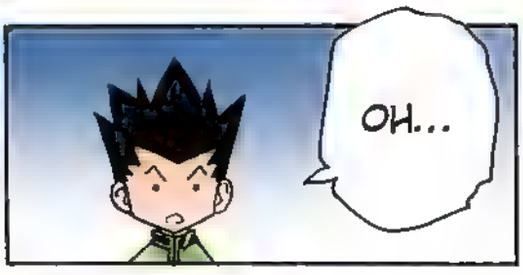

WHEN I HOLD MY BREATH, "NO ONE CAN SENSE MY EXISTENCE"!!
MY SECOND ABILITY IS CALLED "GOD'S ALIBI: PERFECT PLAN"!!

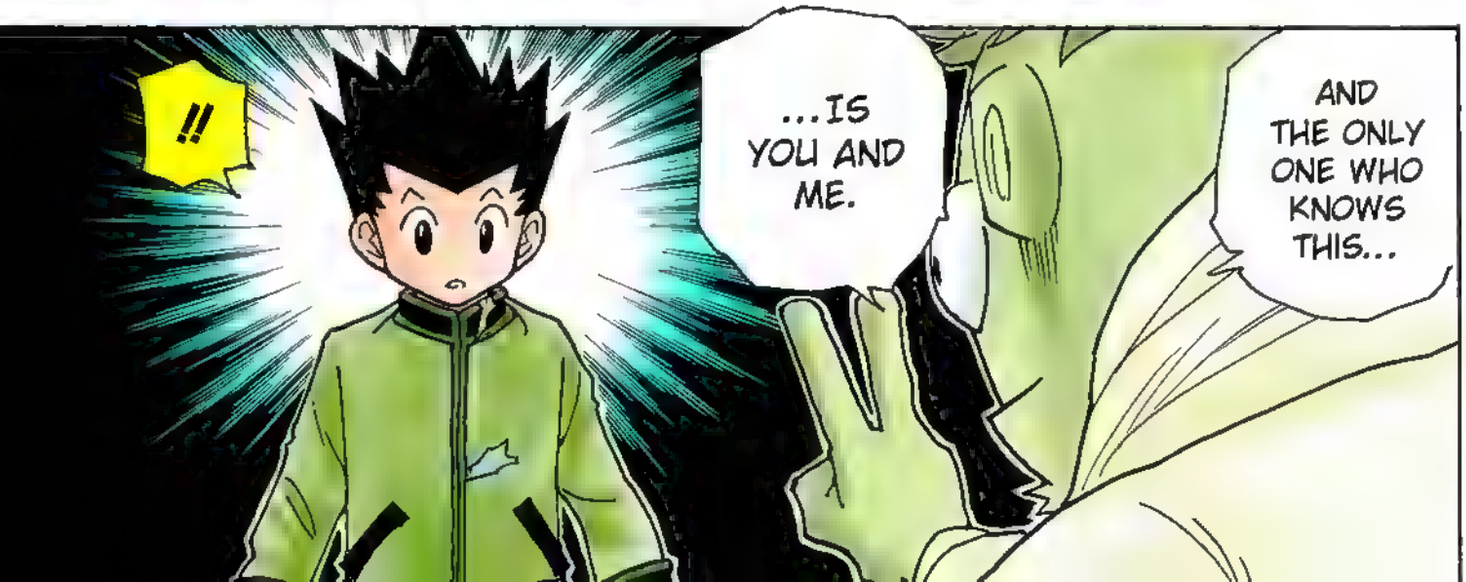
?
?

I'M RIGHT HERE, BUT NO ONE EVER NOTICES ME.
THIS IS AN EXTREME VERSION OF THAT.
YOU KNOW HOW SOME QUIET GUYS NEVER GET NOTICED? LIKE THE GUY THE WAITRESS SKIPS OVER WHEN PASSING OUT THE WATERS AT THE RESTAURANT?

BUT YOUR MIND DIDN'T REALIZE IT!
YOU WERE EVEN TOUCHING ME.

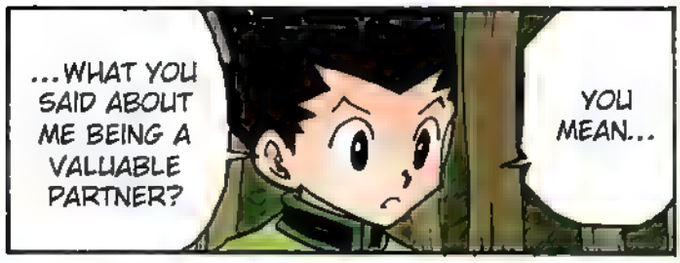
I USE IT TO HIDE MY TRUE ABILITY.
TURNING INVISIBLE IS A DECOY.


OH...

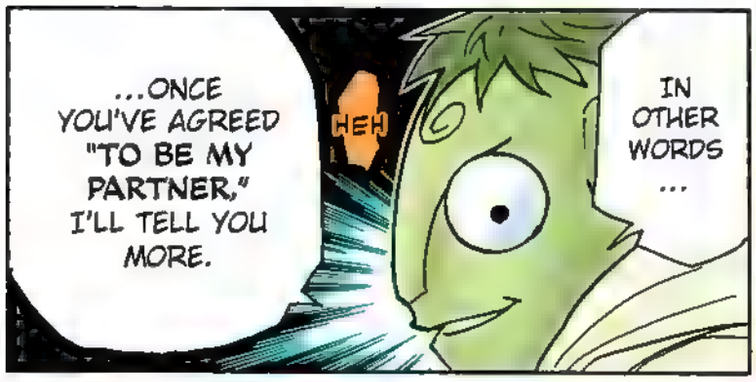

!!
...IS YOU AND ME.
AND THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS THIS...

IF I CAN'T CONVINCE YOU TO TRUST ME, WE CAN'T START ANYTHING.

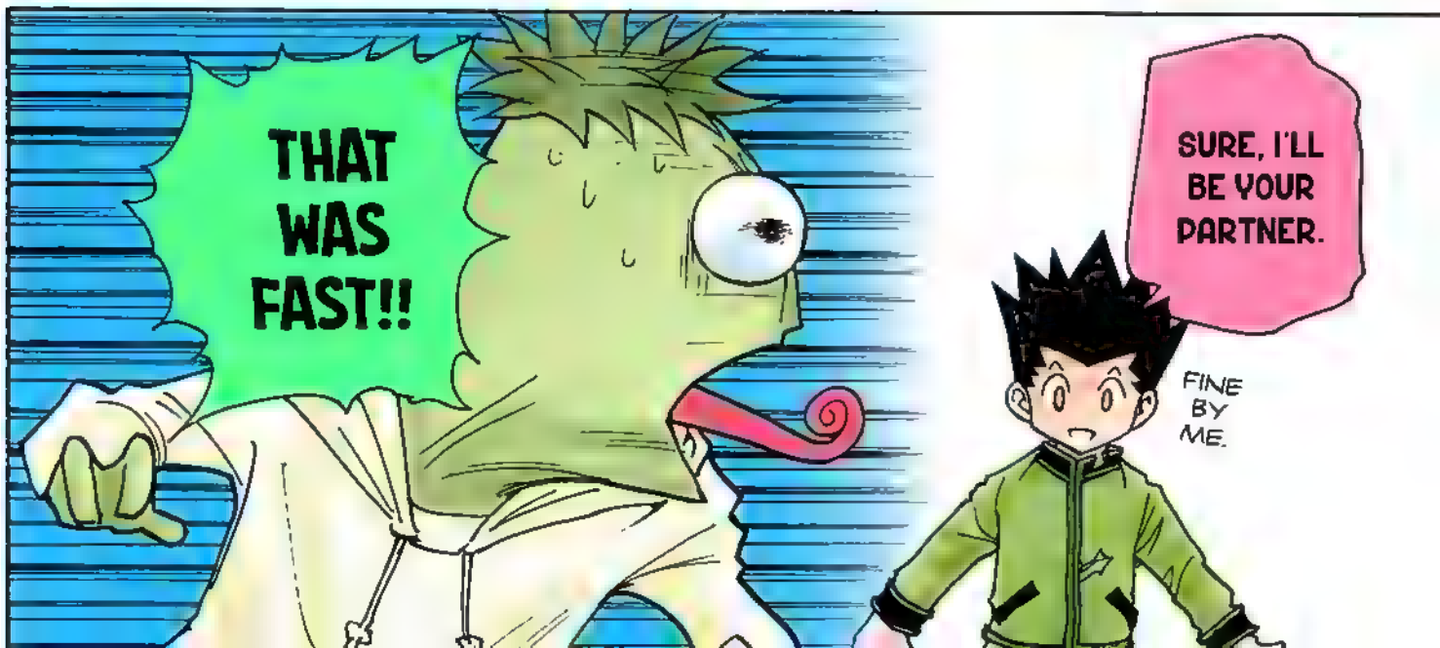
WELL, IT'S TO EARN YOUR TRUST...
WHY TELL ME SOMETHING SO IMPORTANT ?!
SO I GOTTA TAKE THE RISK FIRST.

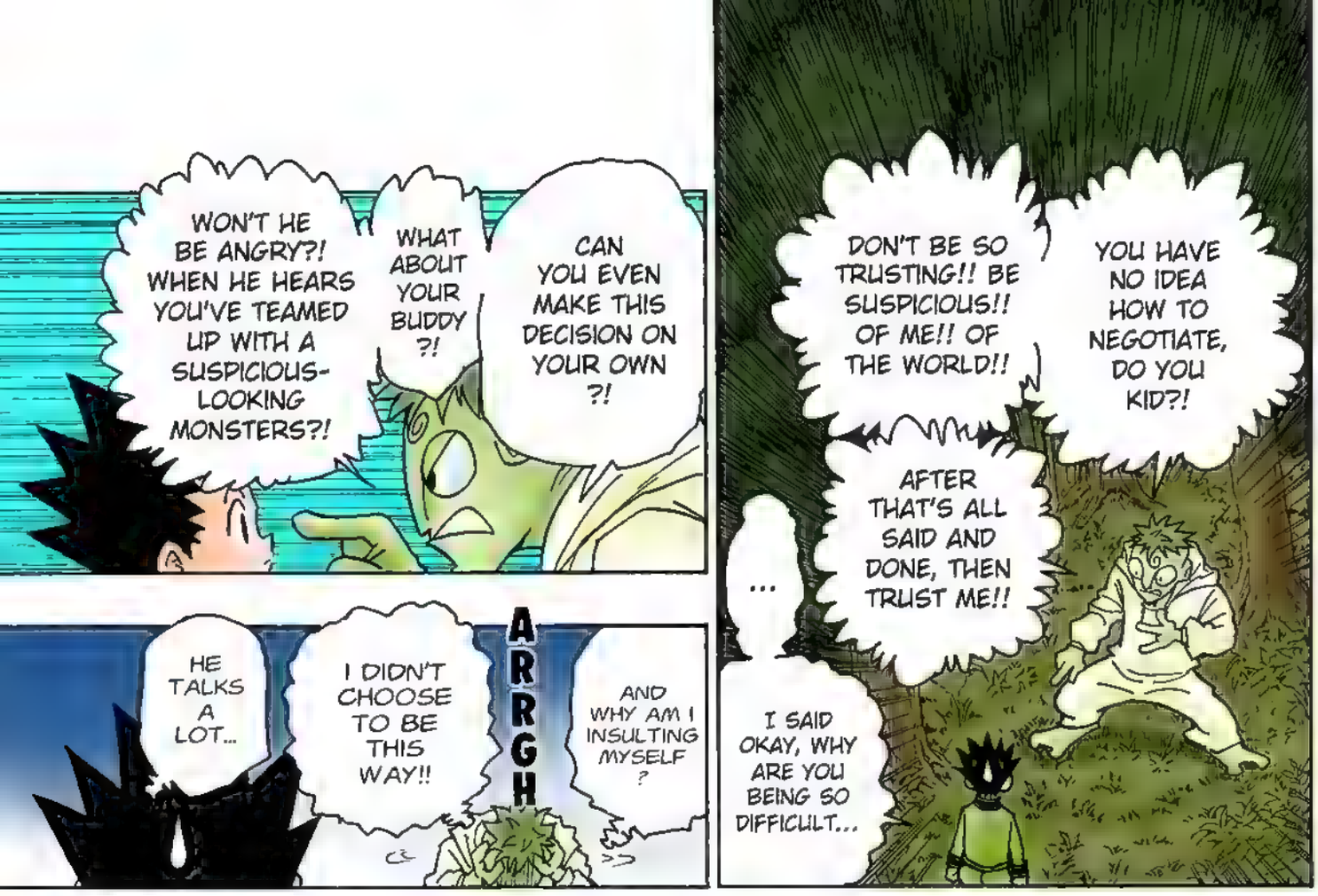

...WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT ME BEING A VALUABLE PARTNER?
YOU MEAN...

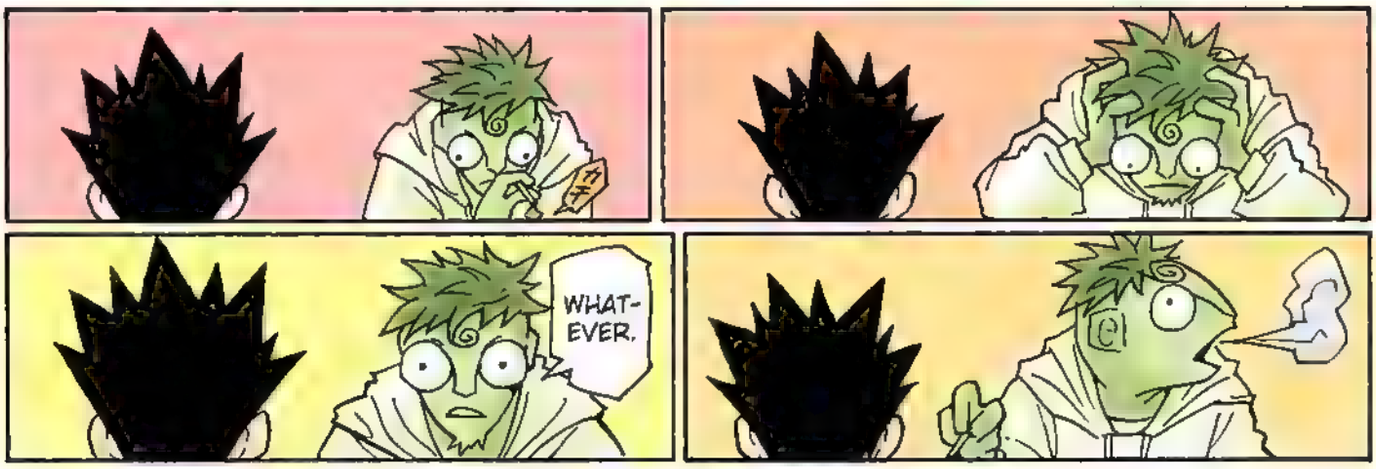
?
BUT WE CAN SAVE THAT FOR LATER.
YEAH.


...ONCE YOU'VE AGREED "TO BE MY PARTNER," I'LL TELL YOU MORE.
HEH
IN OTHER WORDS ...

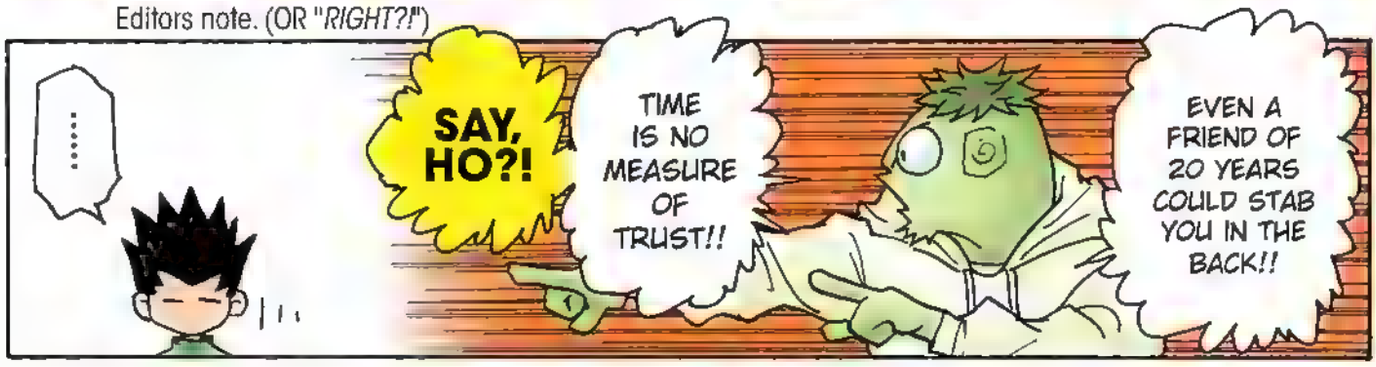
REMEMBER? WE HAVE TO TRUST EACH OTHER FIRST.

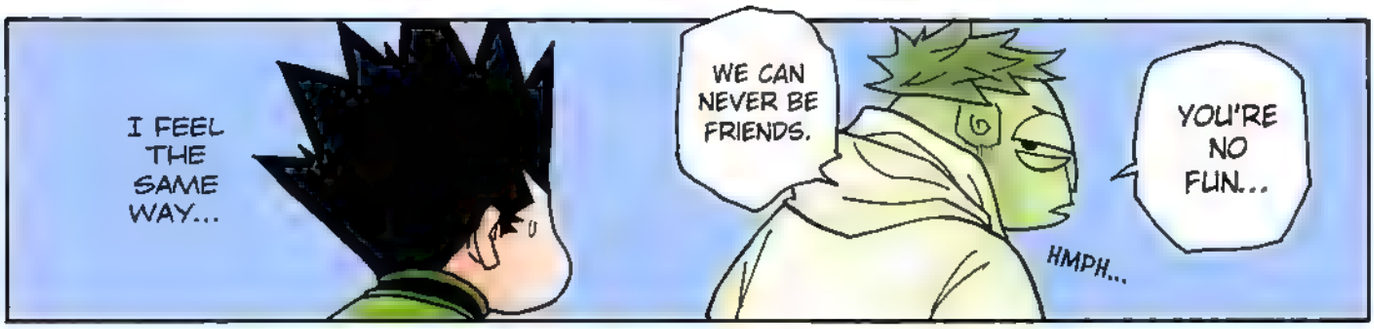

THAT WAS FAST!!
SURE, I'LL BE YOUR PARTNER.
FINE BY ME.





Editors note. (OR "*RIGHT?!*")





SO... ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?

ABOUT WHAT?

ABOUT TEAMING UP WITH ME!!

WON'T YOUR BUDDY OBJECT?

BUT IF I INSIST ON HAVING MY WAY, IT'LL BE FINE.

KILLUA WON'T LIKE IT, BUT HE'LL GIVE IN.

REALLY... HE MUST HAVE A HARD TIME.

HMM. MOST LIKELY.

KILLUA TENDS TO BE CAUTIOUS AND QUESTION EVERYTHING.

THIS WON'T WORK THEN!!

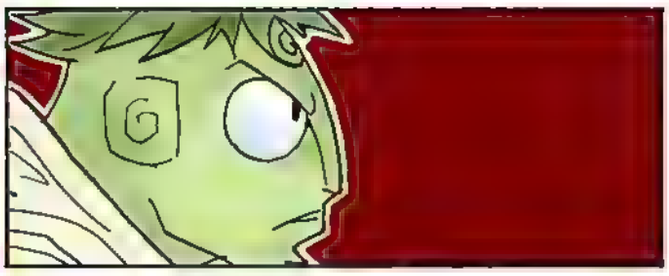
THE DEAL'S DEAD IN THE WATER!!

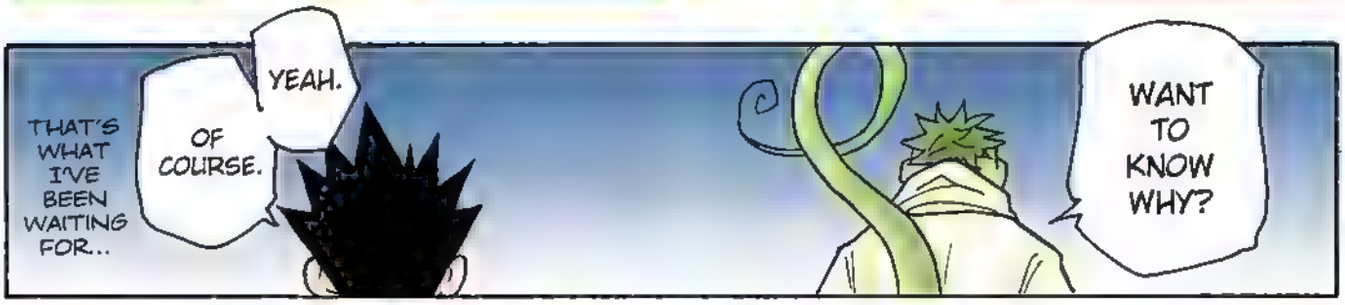
WELL, WHATEVER. IF YOU SAY IT'S OKAY, I'LL TRUST YOU.

SO LET'S GET TO BUSINESS.

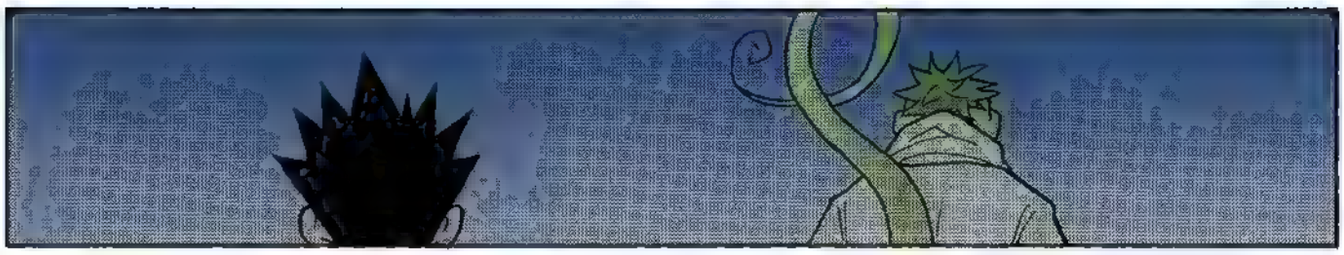
YEAH.

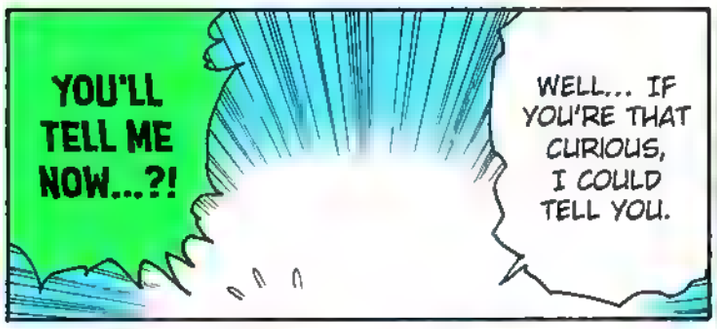
I WANT TO TAKE DOWN THE KING!!

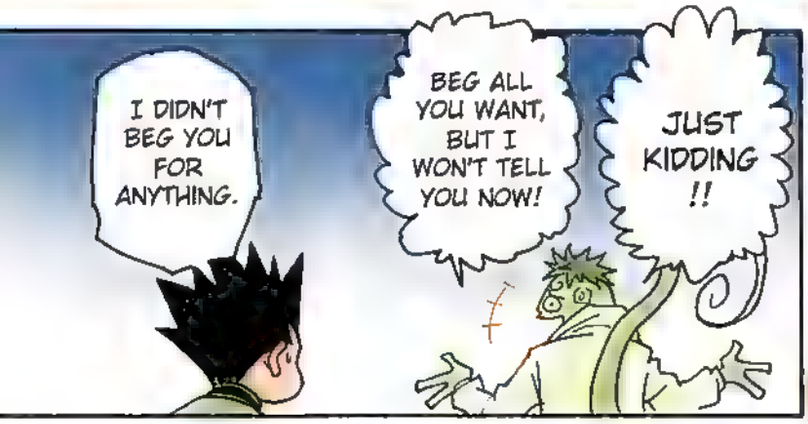


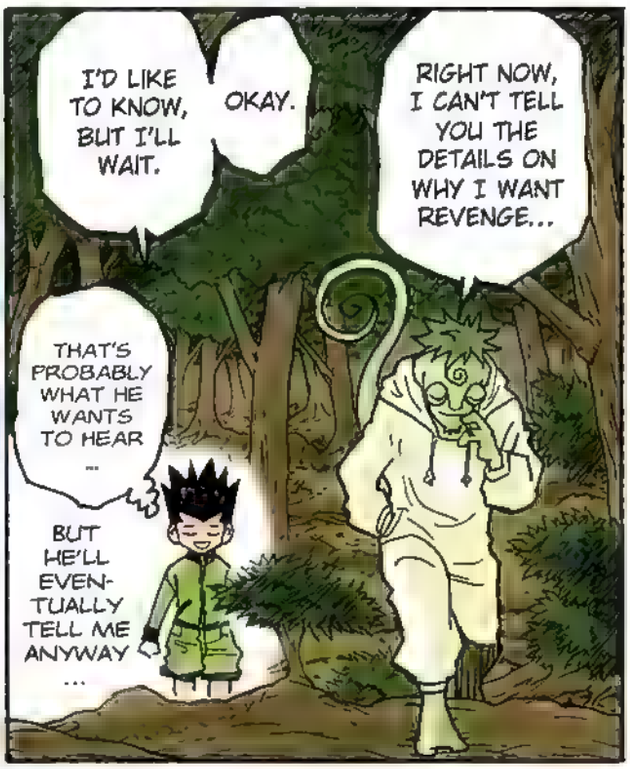

THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR...
OF COURSE.
YEAH.
WANT TO KNOW WHY?

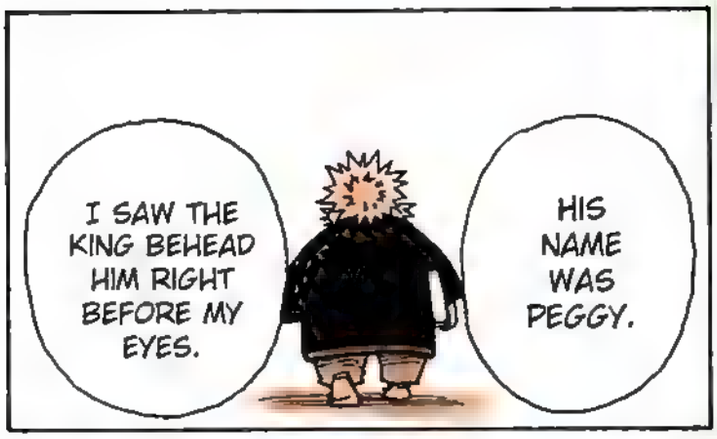
REVENGE.



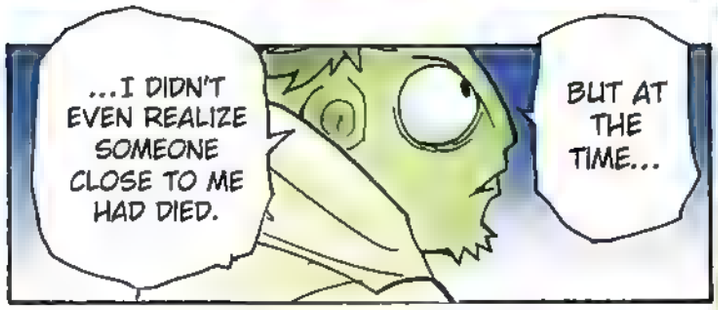

YOU'LL TELL ME NOW...?!
WELL... IF YOU'RE THAT CURIOUS, I COULD TELL YOU.

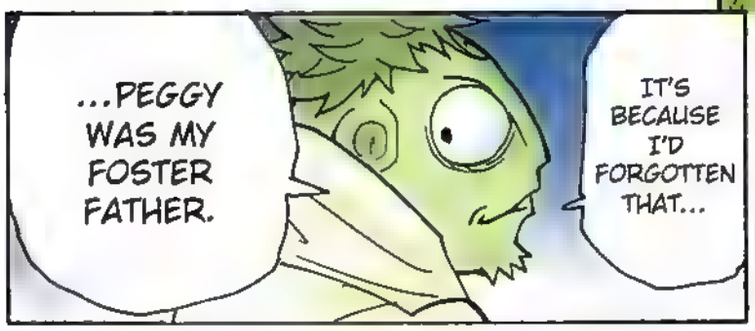

I DIDN'T BEG YOU FOR ANYTHING.
BEG ALL YOU WANT, BUT I WON'T TELL YOU NOW!
JUST KIDDING !!

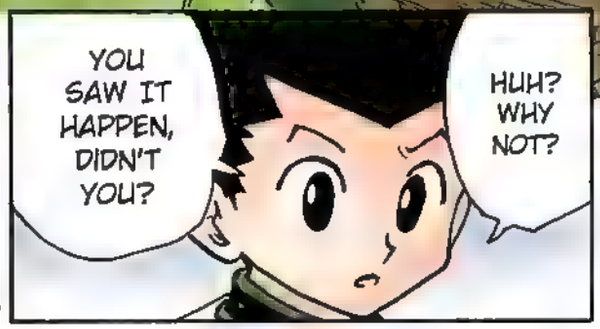

I'D LIKE TO KNOW, BUT I'LL WAIT.
OKAY.
RIGHT NOW, I CAN'T TELL YOU THE DETAILS ON WHY I WANT REVENGE...
THAT'S PROBABLY WHAT HE WANTS TO HEAR ...
BUT HE'LL EVEN-TUALLY TELL ME ANYWAY ...

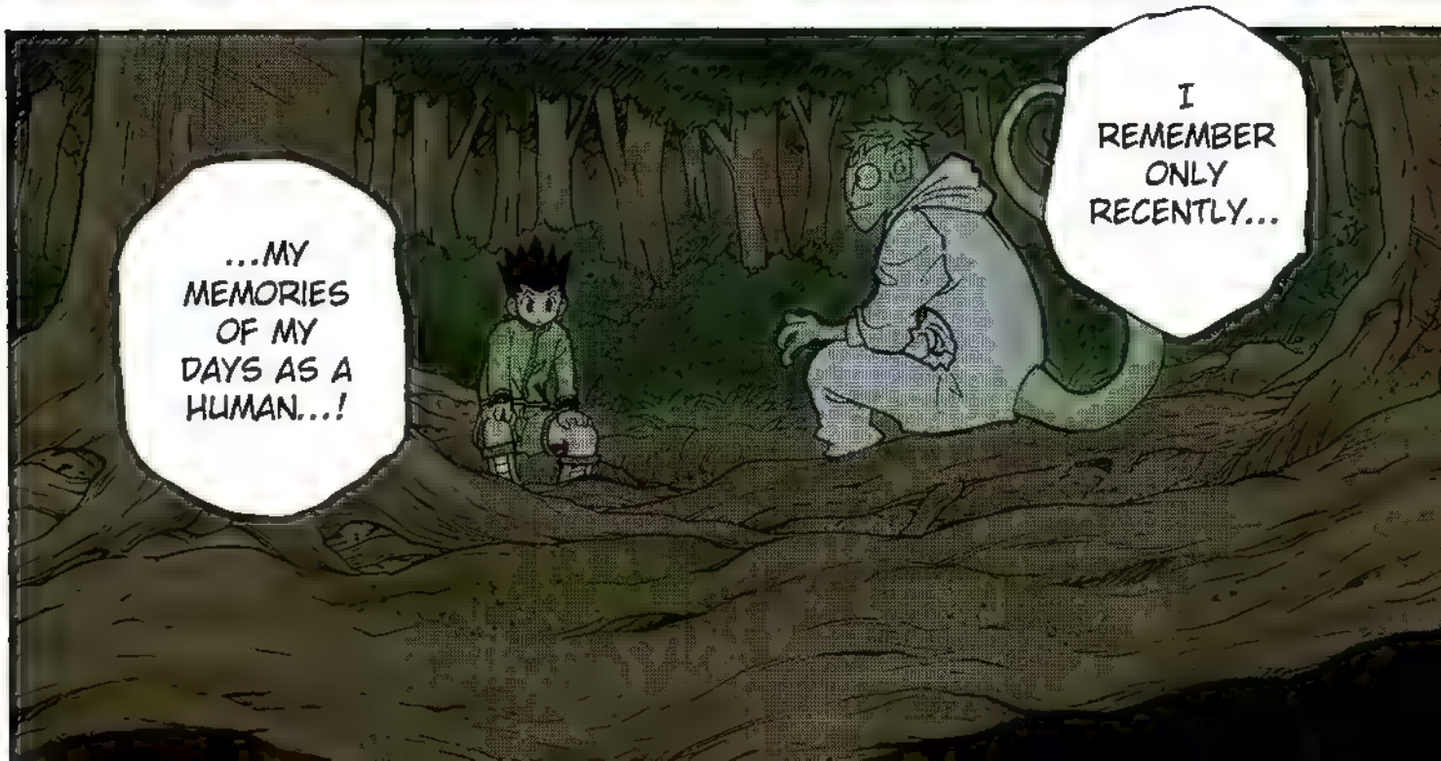

I SAW THE KING BEHEAD HIM RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES.
HIS NAME WAS PEGGY.

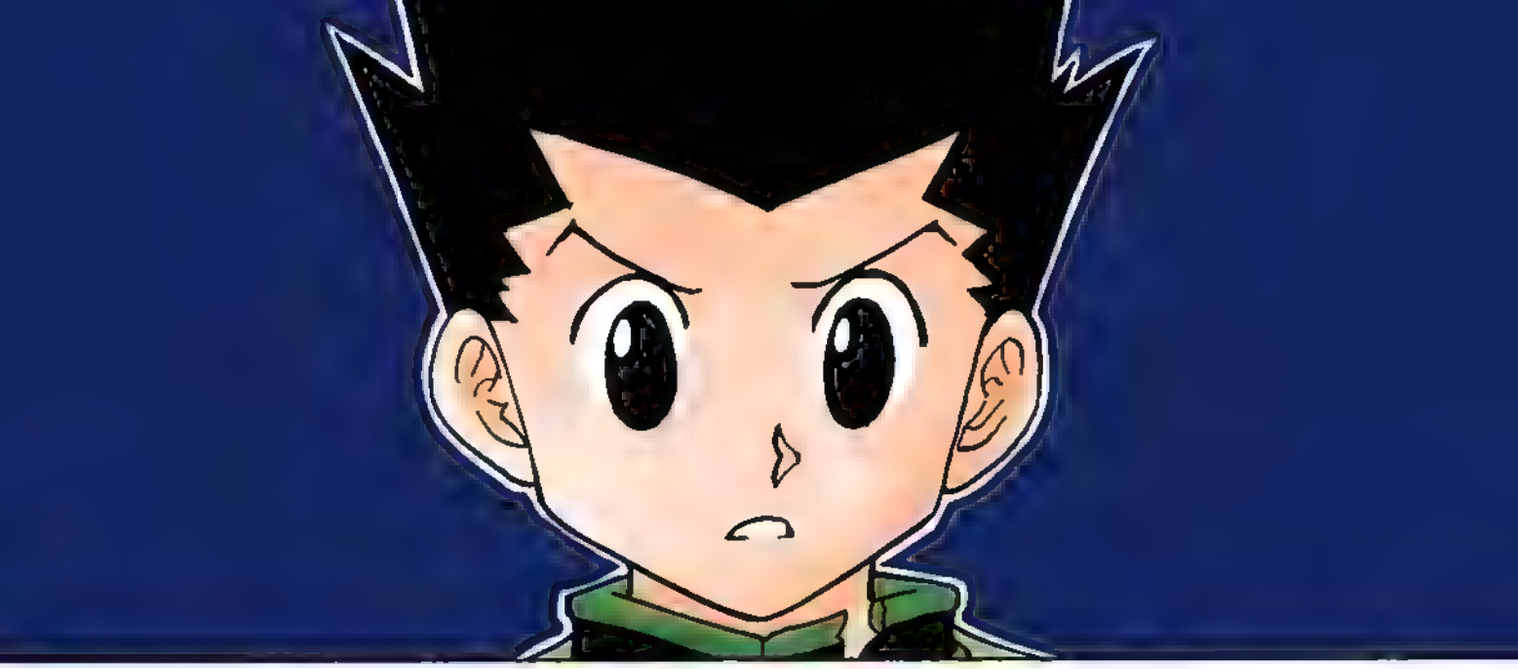
SO HE'S JUST GONNA TELL ME ANYWAY ...?!
THE KING KILLED SOMEONE I OWED MY LIFE TO...
.....


...I DIDN'T EVEN REALIZE SOMEONE CLOSE TO ME HAD DIED.
BUT AT THE TIME...

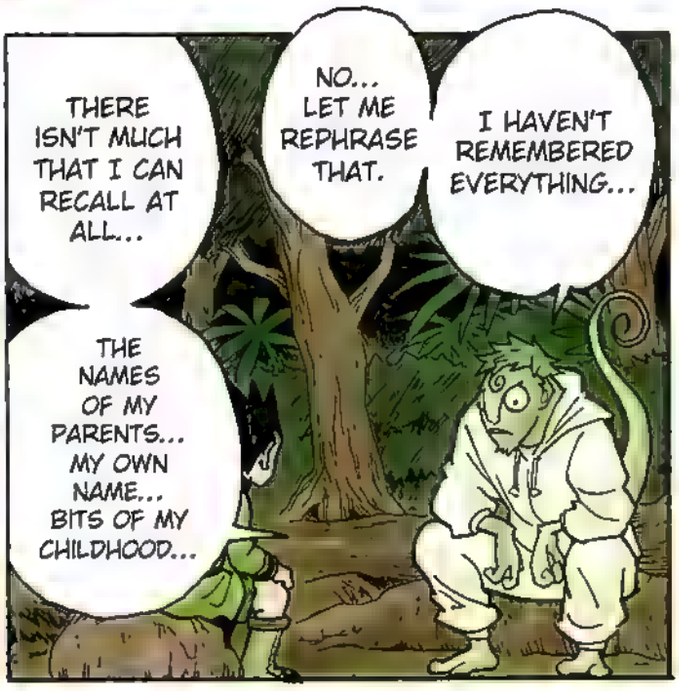

...PEGGY WAS MY FOSTER FATHER.
IT'S BECAUSE I'D FORGOTTEN THAT...

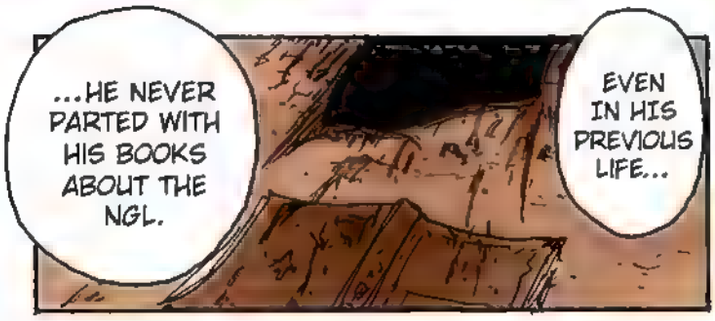

YOU SAW IT HAPPEN, DIDN'T YOU?
HUH? WHY NOT?


...MY MEMORIES OF MY DAYS AS A HUMAN...!
I REMEMBER ONLY RECENTLY...

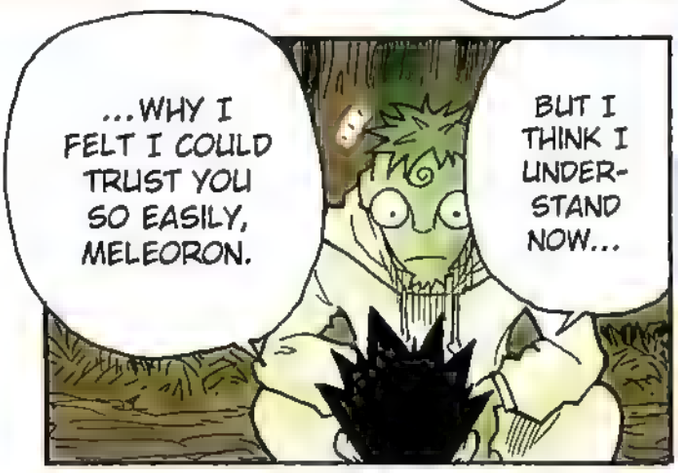


...ALSO MY FOSTER FATHER'S HUMAN NAME.
"PEGGY" WAS...

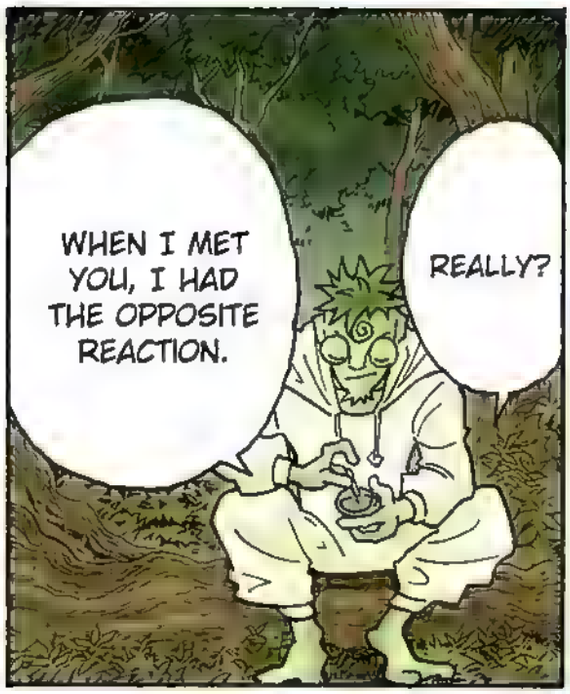

THERE ISN'T MUCH THAT I CAN RECALL AT ALL...
NO... LET ME REPHRASE THAT.
I HAVEN'T REMEMBERED EVERYTHING...
THE NAMES OF MY PARENTS... MY OWN NAME... BITS OF MY CHILDHOOD...


...HE NEVER PARTED WITH HIS BOOKS ABOUT THE NGL.
EVEN IN HIS PREVIOUS LIFE...

...ALL OF YOU HAVE...
DO...
...HUMAN MEMORIES ...?

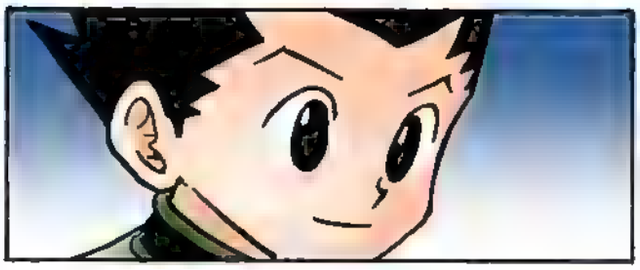

...WHY I FELT I COULD TRUST YOU SO EASILY, MELEORON.
BUT I THINK I UNDER-STAND NOW...

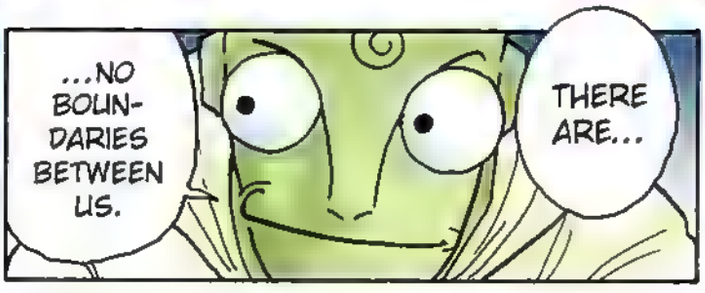
SOME CHIMERA ANTS ARE CLEARLY FERAL IN NATURE.
I DON'T KNOW IF WE'RE ALL THE SAME.
FOR OTHERS, THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT THEY'RE THINKING.


WHEN I MET YOU, I HAD THE OPPOSITE REACTION.
REALLY?

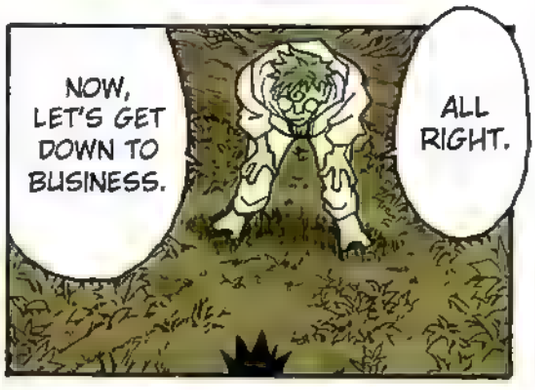
MORE HUMAN THAN ANY OTHER CHIMERA ANT I'VE MET...
YOU SEEM VERY HUMAN.
IN FACT, I'D SAY YOU'RE STILL HUMAN.

THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO TEAM UP.
I COULD SENSE A VICIOUS BEAST INSIDE YOU!



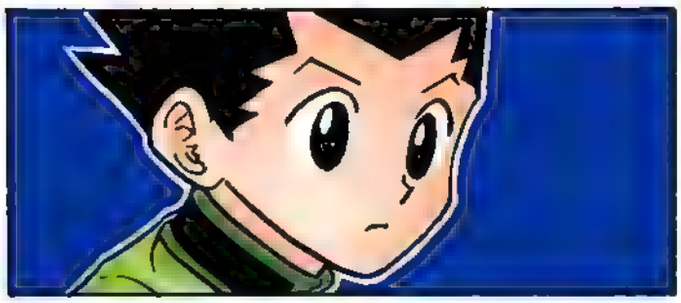

...NO BOUN-DARIES BETWEEN US.
THERE ARE...

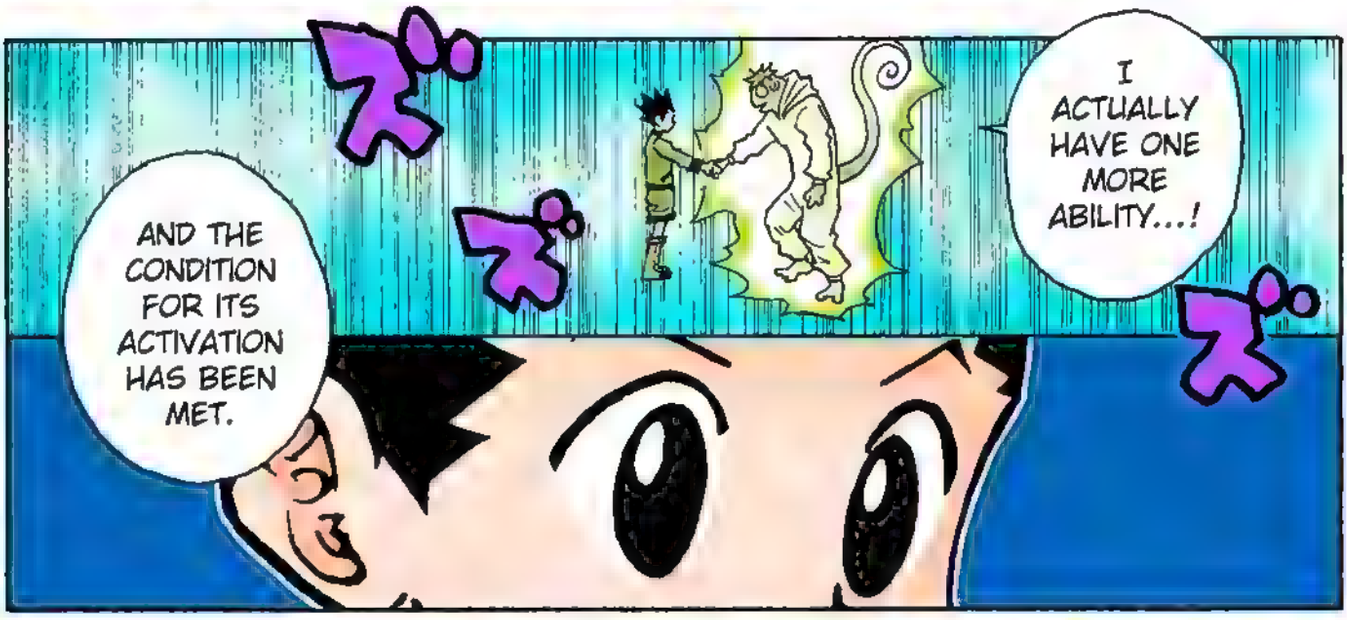
COULD YOU TELL ME YOUR NAME?
BUT FIRST...

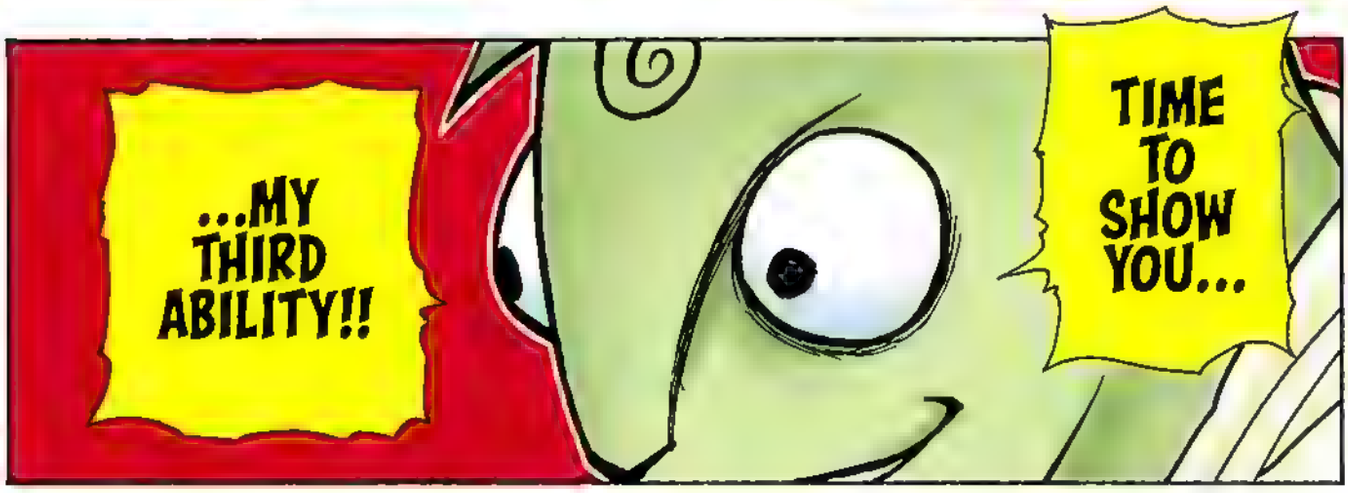

NOW, LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS.
ALL RIGHT.

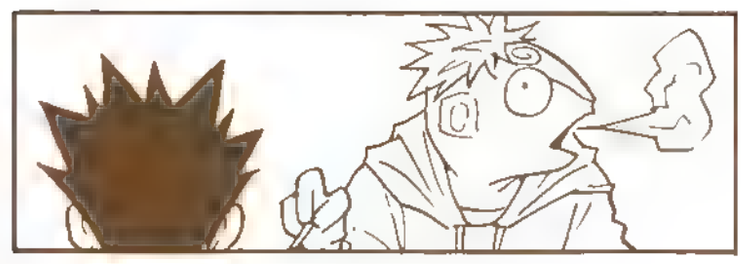
GON FREECSS !!

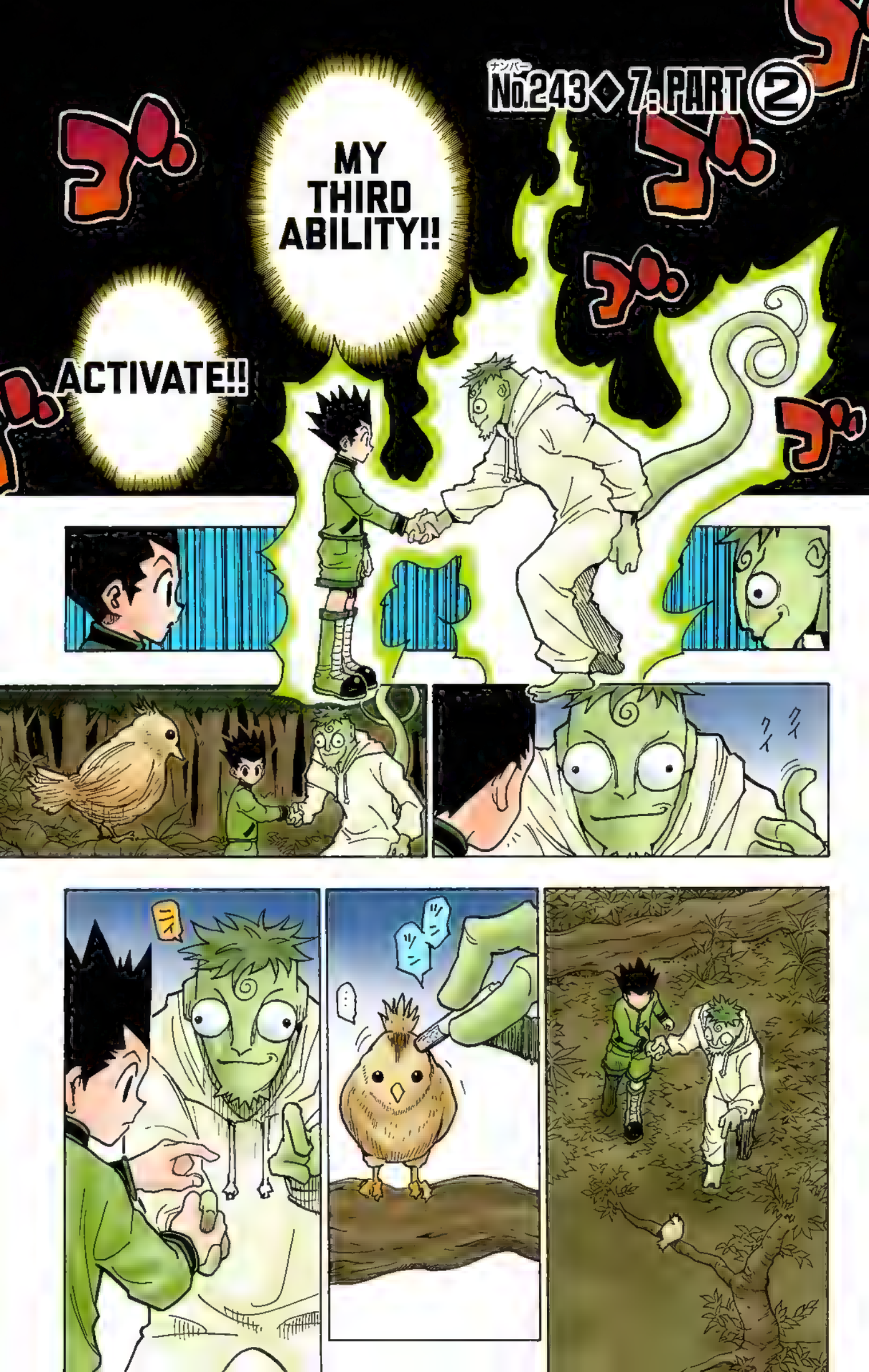
I'M GON.










No.243◆7. PART ②
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MY THIRD ABILITY!!
ACTIVATE!!
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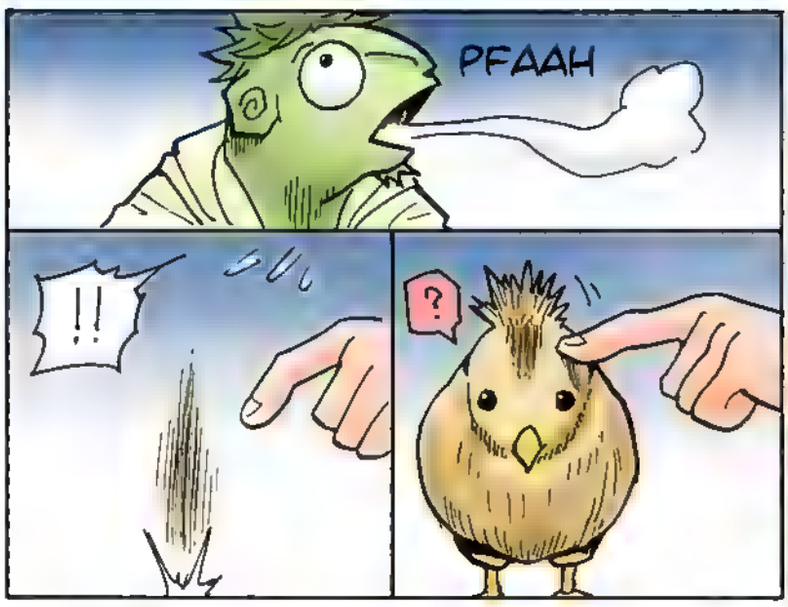
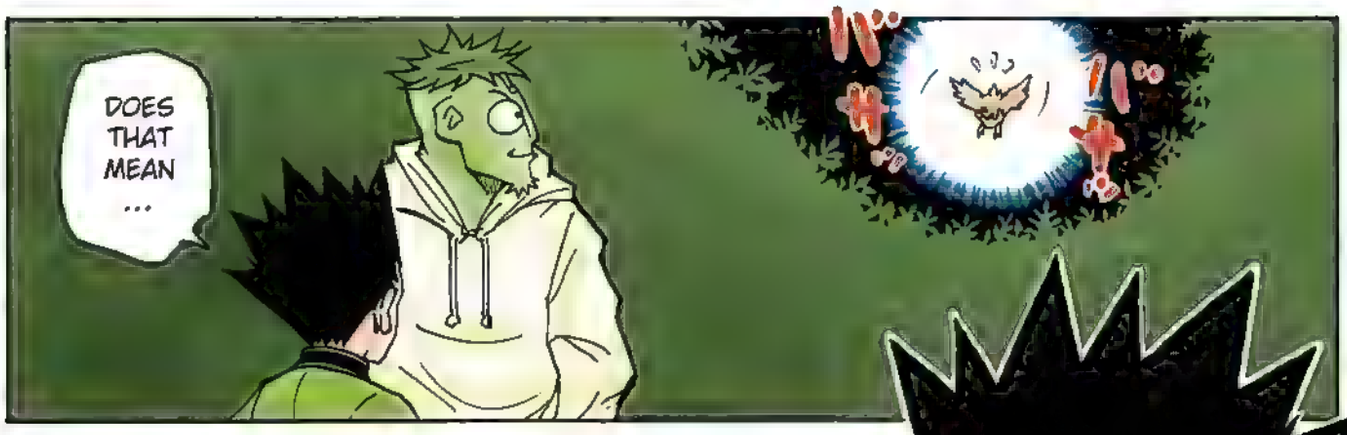
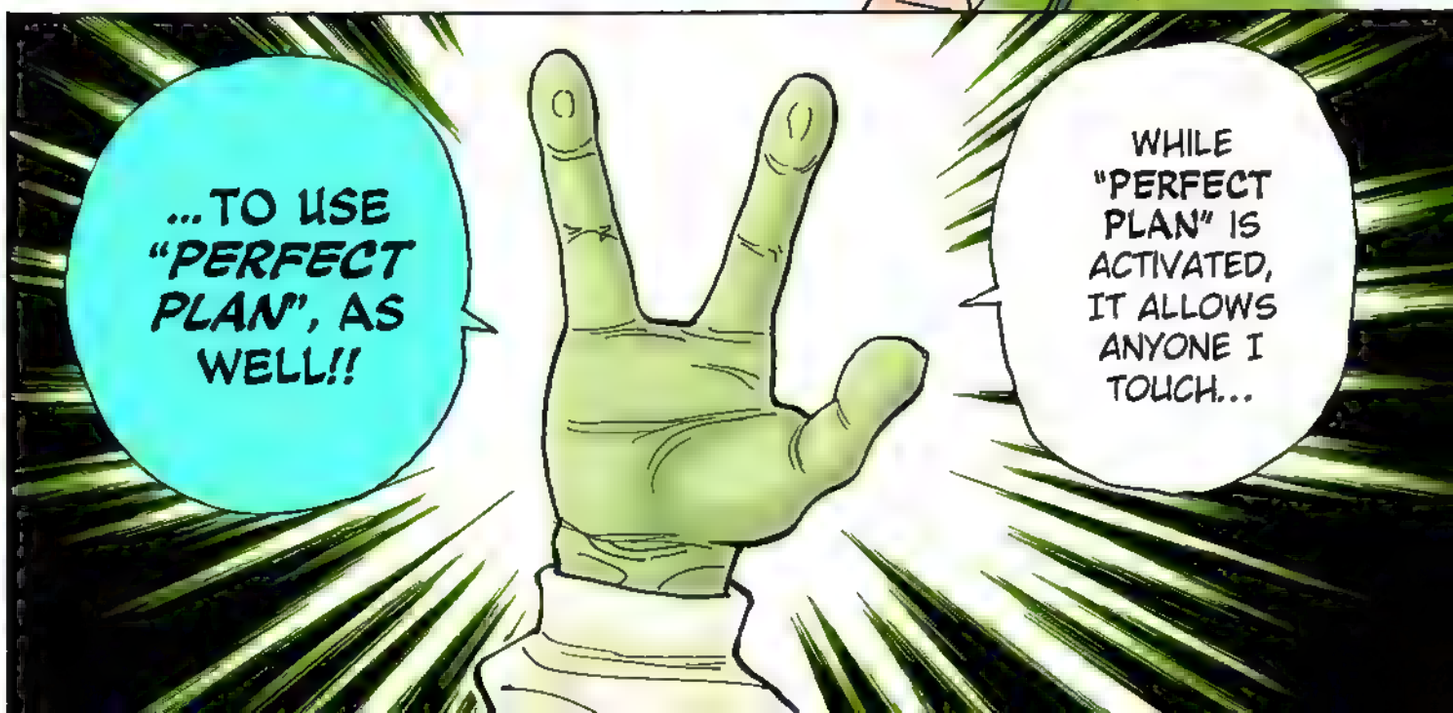

PFAAH
!!
?

WHY ISN'T HE FLYING ...?
.....


DOES THAT MEAN ...

THIS IS MY 3RD ABILITY, "GOD'S ACCOMPLICE."
EXACTLY.

...I WAS USING YOUR "PERFECT PLAN", TOO?!


...TO USE "PERFECT PLAN", AS WELL!!
WHILE "PERFECT PLAN" IS ACTIVATED, IT ALLOWS ANYONE I TOUCH...

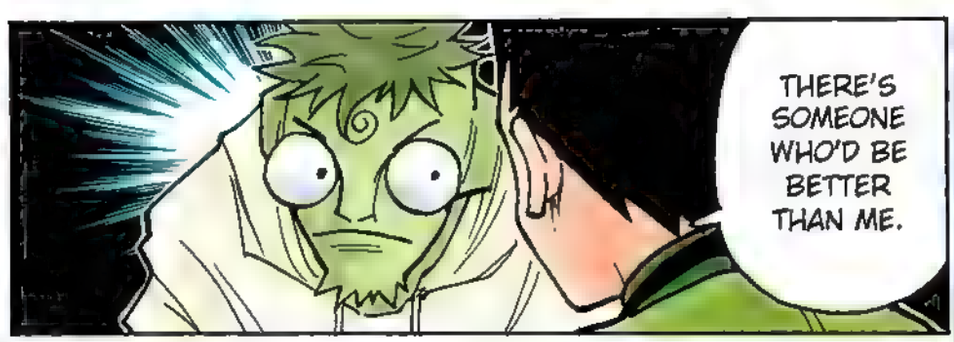
DO YOU UNDER-STAND HOW POWERFUL THIS ABILITY IS NOW?
DO YOU GET IT NOW?
...WILL ALLOW US TO APPROACH AND ATTACK THE ENEMY WITHOUT THEIR KNOWLEDGE!!
THIS ABILITY...
ONE MEGA-PUNCH TO HIS UNGUARDED VITALS, AND WE'LL WIN!!
NO MATTER HOW POWERFUL THE KING IS...
TO DEAL AN UNPRECEDENTED BLOW TO THAT SON OF A BITCH!!
YOU'RE THE GOOD-GUY PARTNER I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR...!!

THEY WERE KILLING FOR FUN BEHIND MY BACK.
AH, NO NEED TO FEEL BAD.
I SENT THEM TO ATTACK, SO I COULD MEASURE YOUR STRENGTH, BUT THEY...

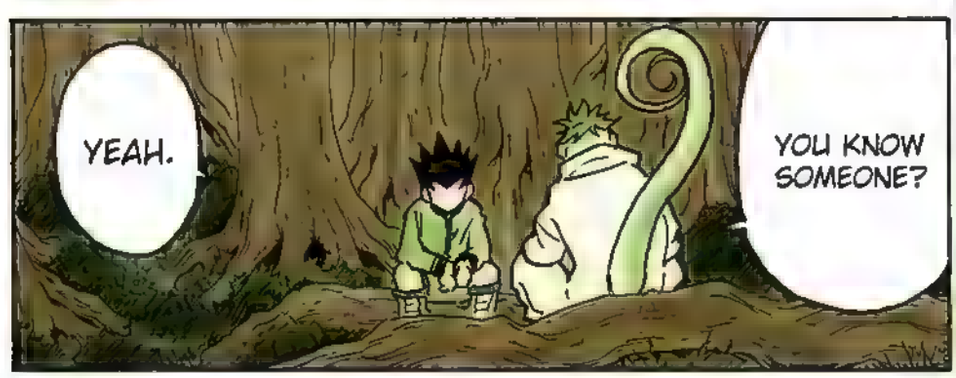
...WHEN YOU USE YOUR "JAN KEN ROCK!!" THING.
GON, I WAS WATCHING ...
THOSE WERE MY MEN.

WELL, FROM THEIR PERSPECTIVE, I'M THE ONE WHO'S CHANGED.
SO THEY'RE NO LONGER MY SOLDIERS OR EVEN MY ALLIES...

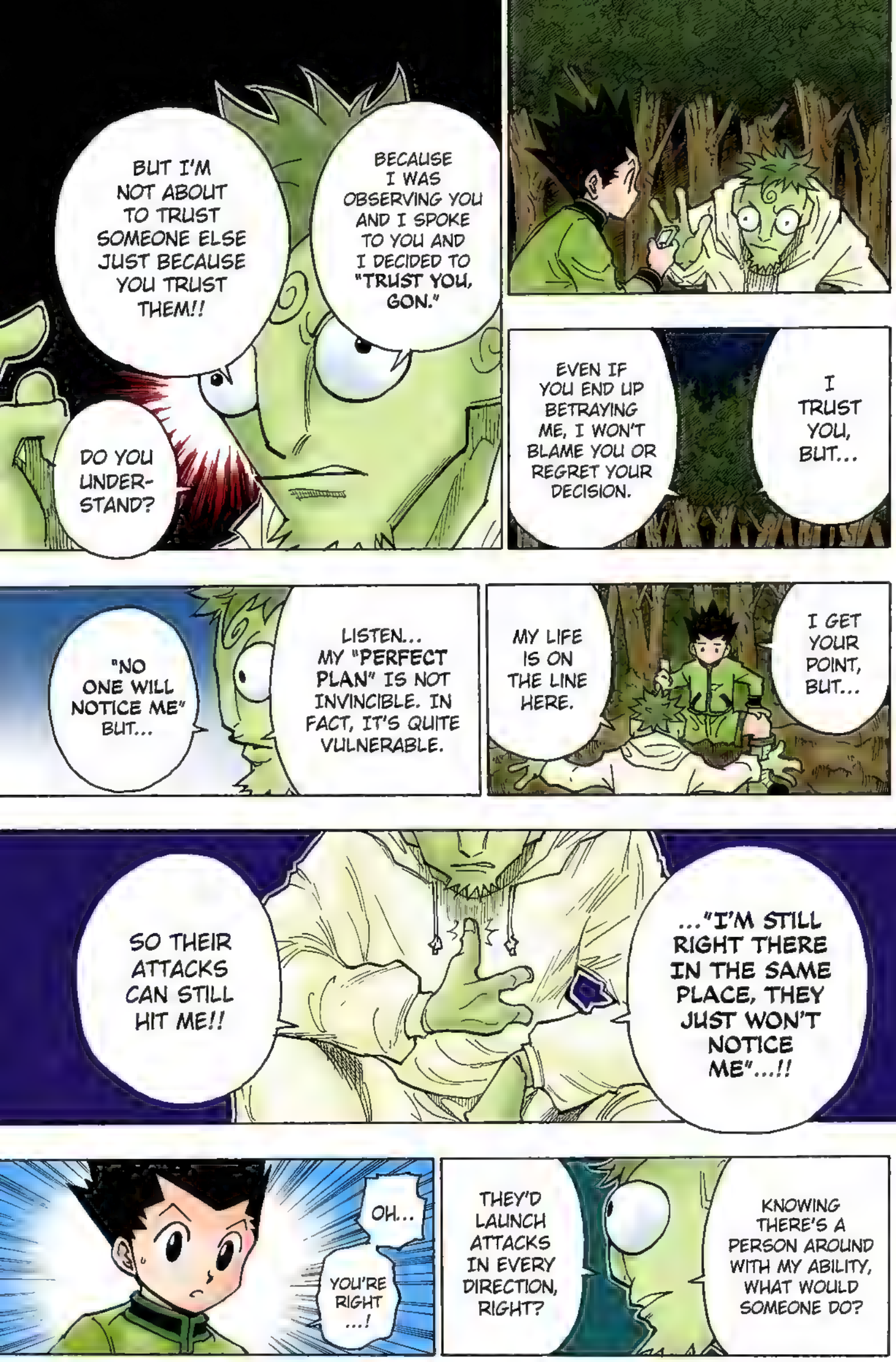
.....


THERE'S SOMEONE WHO'D BE BETTER THAN ME.

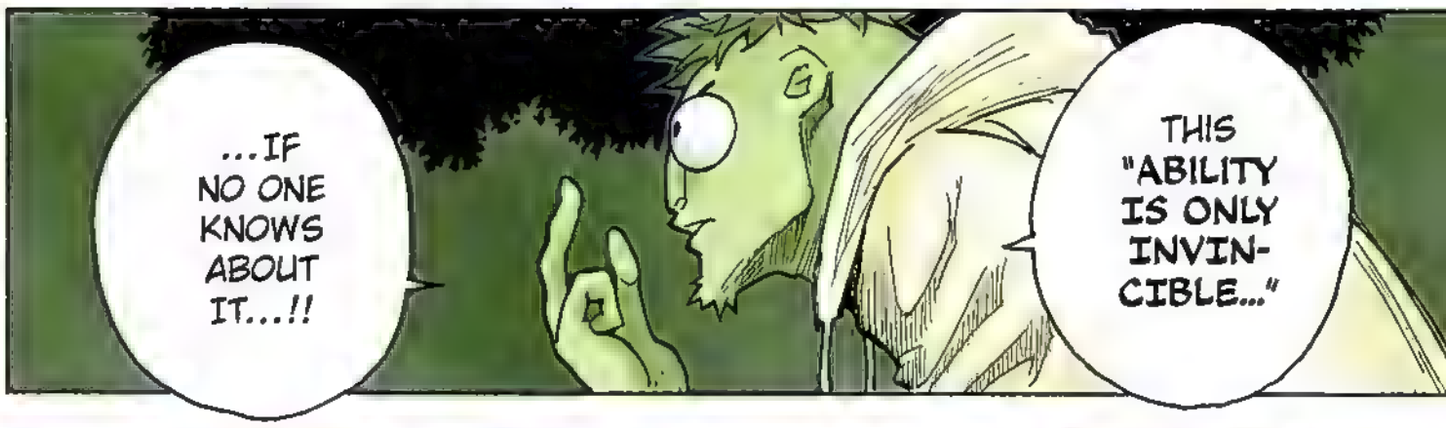
WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT BEING YOUR PARTNER...
HM?

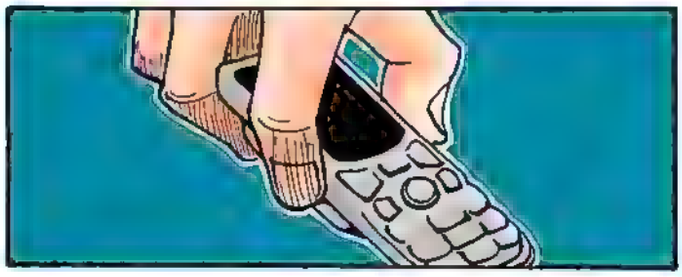

YEAH.
YOU KNOW SOMEONE?

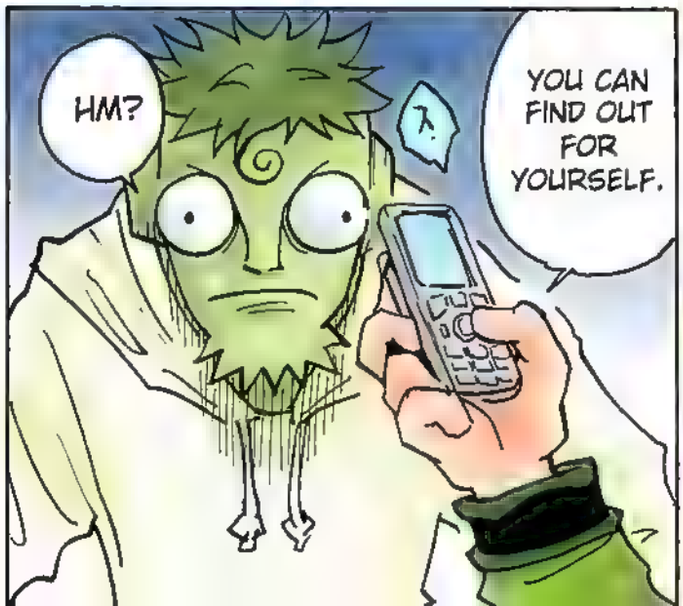
HOLD ON!!
I'LL CONTACT HIM.


BUT I'M NOT ABOUT TO TRUST SOMEONE ELSE JUST BECAUSE YOU TRUST THEM!!
BECAUSE I WAS OBSERVING YOU AND I SPOKE TO YOU AND I DECIDED TO "TRUST YOU, GON."
DO YOU UNDER-STAND?
EVEN IF YOU END UP BETRAYING ME, I WON'T BLAME YOU OR REGRET YOUR DECISION.
I TRUST YOU, BUT...
"NO ONE WILL NOTICE ME" BUT...
LISTEN... MY "PERFECT PLAN" IS NOT INVINCIBLE. IN FACT, IT'S QUITE VULNERABLE.
MY LIFE IS ON THE LINE HERE.
I GET YOUR POINT, BUT...
SO THEIR ATTACKS CAN STILL HIT ME!!
..."I'M STILL RIGHT THERE IN THE SAME PLACE, THEY JUST WON'T NOTICE ME"...!!
OH...
YOU'RE RIGHT ...!
THEY'D LAUNCH ATTACKS IN EVERY DIRECTION, RIGHT?
KNOWING THERE'S A PERSON AROUND WITH MY ABILITY, WHAT WOULD SOMEONE DO?

I NEED MY ENEMIES TO BELIEVE MY POWER TO BE WEAK.
IF I JUST TURN INVISIBLE, OTHERS CAN LOCATE ME WITH "EN." IT'S BEEN TESTED, SO THE OTHER SQUADRON LEADERS KNOW THIS, TOO.
THEY NEED TO THINK "THAT "EN" IS ENOUGH TO BEAT IT."
I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT WHEN IT COMES TO COMBAT, I'M THE WEAKEST CHIMERA ANT AROUND. I'M ON THE SAME LEVEL AS A FOOT SOLDIER.
IF ONE OF THEIR ATTACKS HITS ME, EVEN BY DUMB LUCK, I'M DONE FOR!
FORGET THE KING, I COULDN'T EVEN SURVIVE A PUNCH FROM A SQUADRON LEADER.

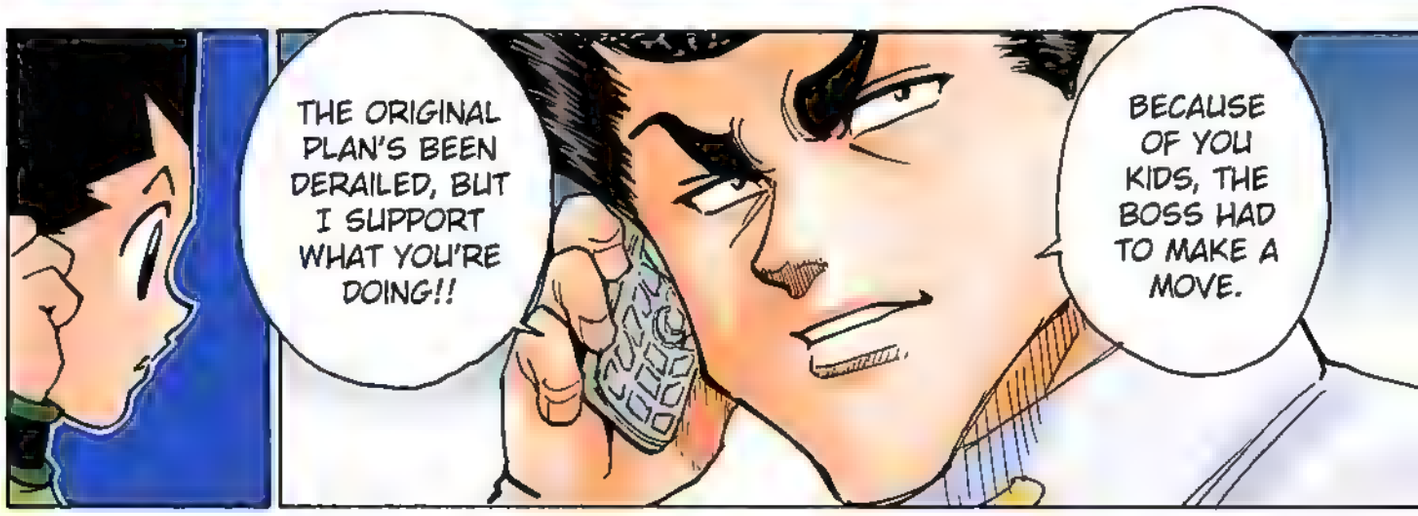

...IF NO ONE KNOWS ABOUT IT...!!
THIS "ABILITY IS ONLY INVIN-CIBLE..."

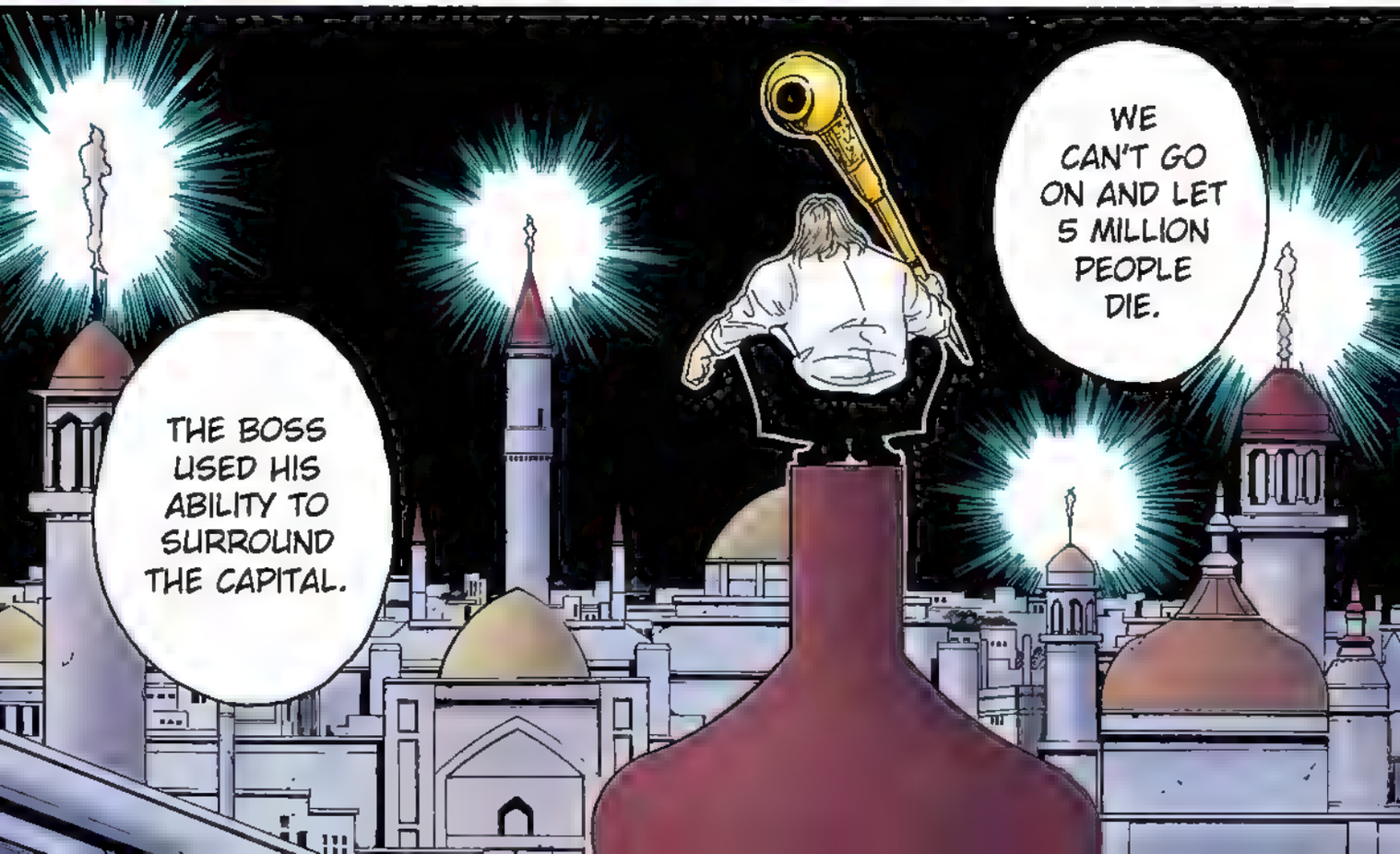



HM?
YOU CAN FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF.

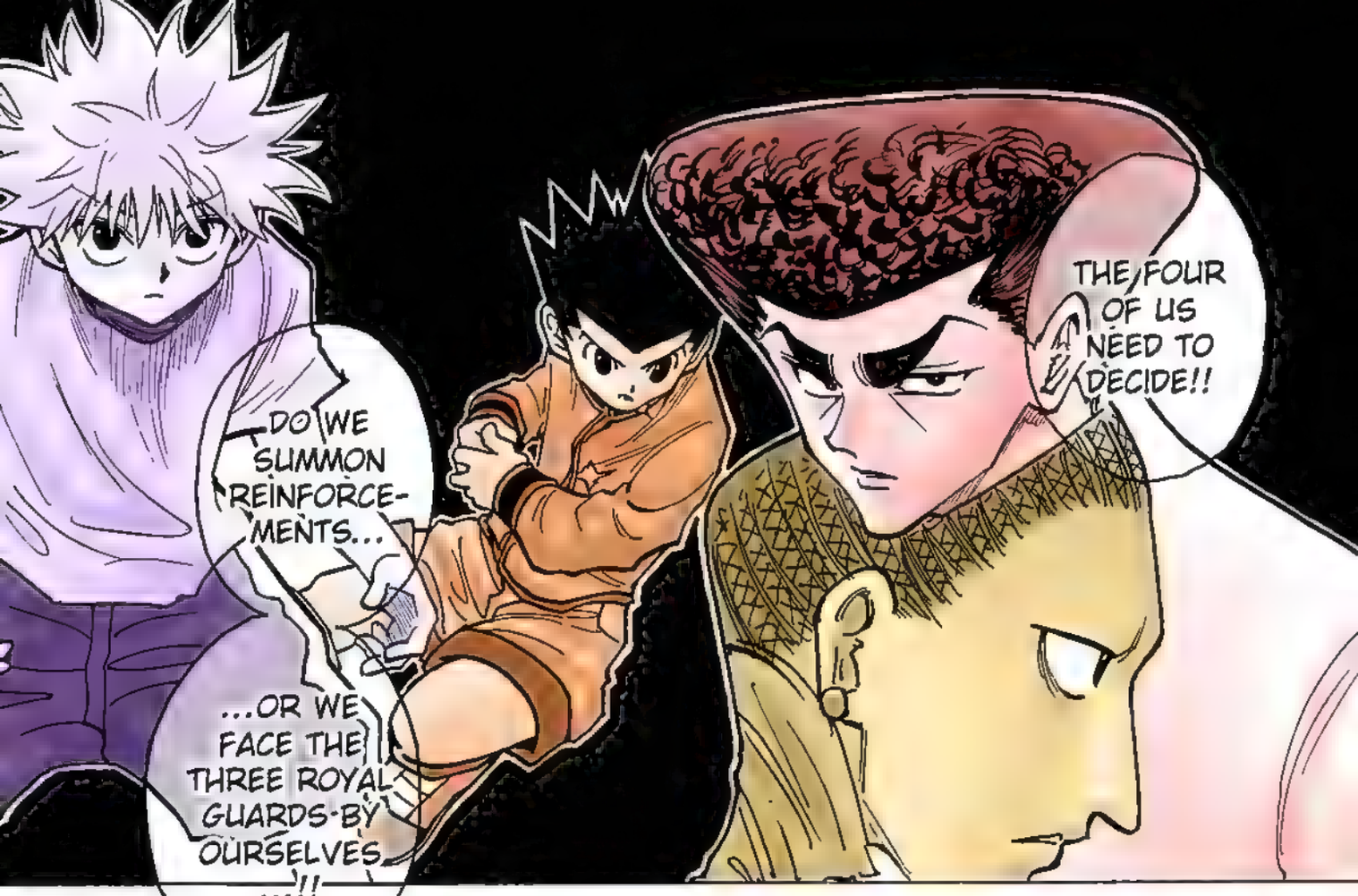
I DON'T WANT TO REVEAL MY POWERS TO ANYONE ELSE.
ENOUGH EXPLAINING, MY POINT IS...
NOT EVEN IF IT'S SOMEONE YOU TRUST.

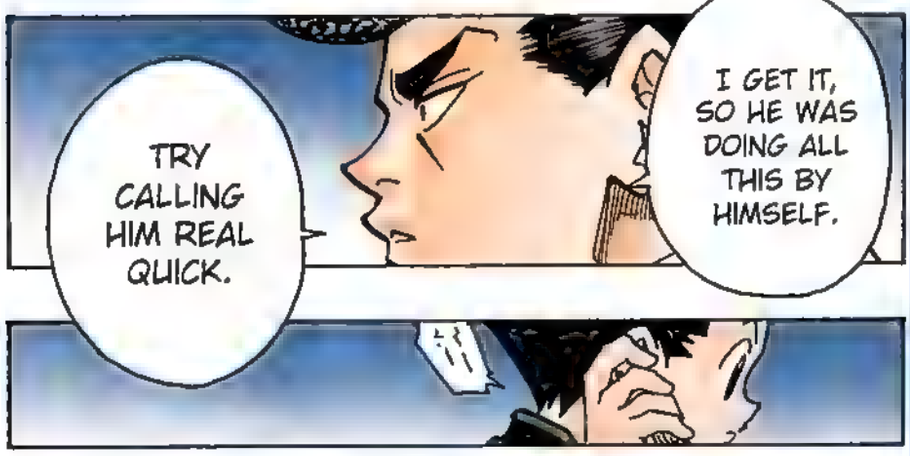
HEEY!! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU, IDIOT!! YOU PULLED IT OFF!!
WHERE ARE YOU?! I'VE GOT A LOT OF QUESTIONS FOR YOU!!
HEL-
...AND JUDGE WHETHER HE'S TRUST-WORTHY.
YOU CAN JUST WATCH FROM A DISTANCE...
I'LL CALL HIM OVER WITHOUT MENTIONING YOU.

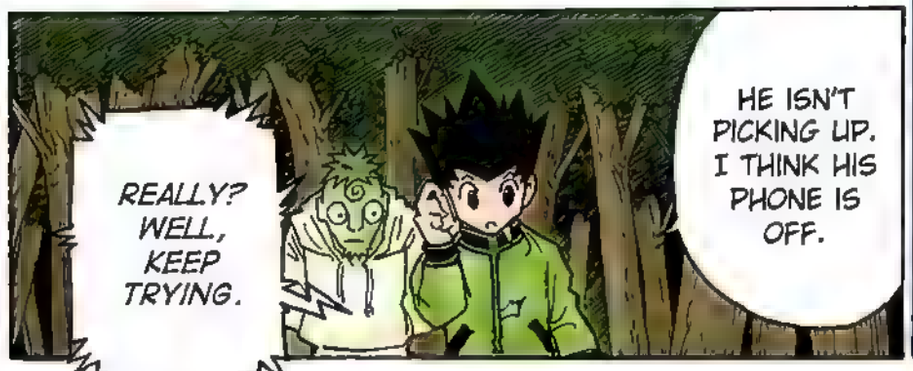

THE ORIGINAL PLAN'S BEEN DERAILED, BUT I SUPPORT WHAT YOU'RE DOING!!
BECAUSE OF YOU KIDS, THE BOSS HAD TO MAKE A MOVE.

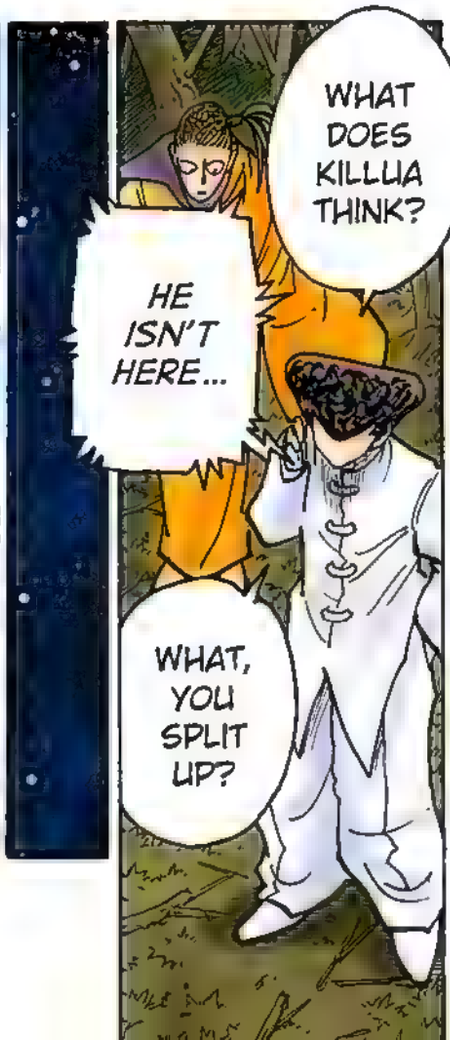

THE BOSS USED HIS ABILITY TO SURROUND THE CAPITAL.
WE CAN'T GO ON AND LET 5 MILLION PEOPLE DIE.

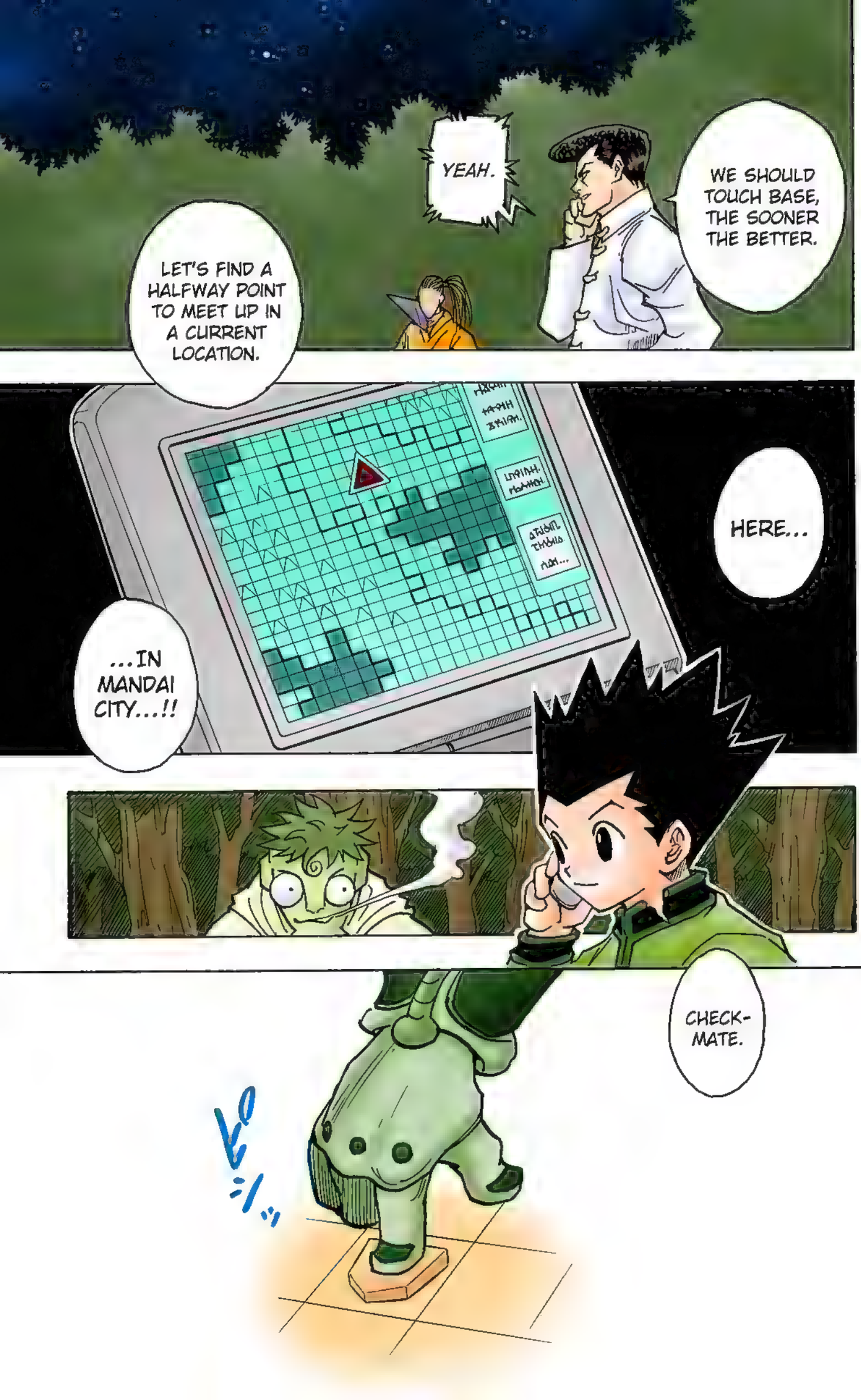
WHICH MEANS, WHEN THE OPERATION STARTS, THEY WON'T BE IN ANY CONDITION TO TAKE ON ANY OF THE ROYAL GUARDS.
BUT THE BOSS AND MR.KNOV WILL BE EXPENDING ALL THEIR ENERGY TO DELAY NEFERPITOU.
IN OTHER WORDS, THEY CAN'T PERFORM ANY REMOTE "SORTING."
THAT SHOULD MAKE IT HARDER FOR NEFERPITOU TO USE HIS ABILITY REMOTELY.
REALLY ?!
RIGHT!
THE SITUATION'S STILL GRIM.
THERE MIGHT STILL BE A MASSACRE.
WE EXPECT MORE CITIZENS TO GATHER IN THE CAPITAL FOR THE CELEBRATION.
HE'S HOLED UP SOMEWHERE OUT THERE, UNTIL ZERO HOUR..
WE CAN'T CONTACT THE CHAIRMAN ANYMORE.
...PREPARING FOR THE FINAL BATTLE...!!


DO WE SUMMON REINFORCE-MENTS...
...OR WE FACE THE THREE ROYAL GUARDS BY OURSELVES...!!
THE FOUR OF US NEED TO DECIDE!!

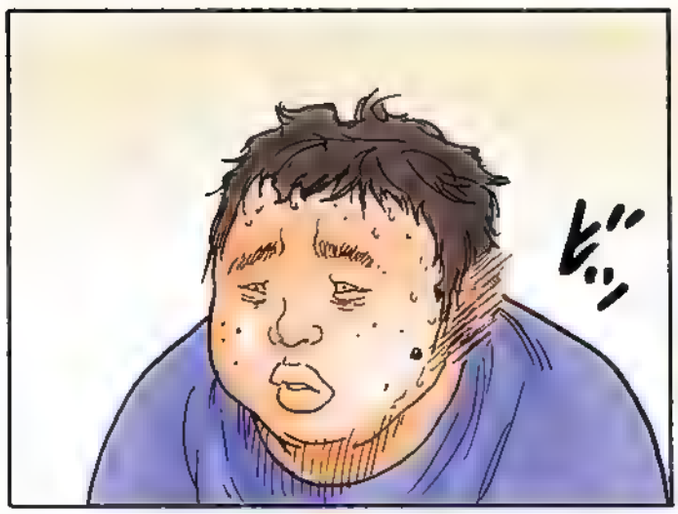

TRY CALLING HIM REAL QUICK.
I GET IT, SO HE WAS DOING ALL THIS BY HIMSELF.


REALLY? WELL, KEEP TRYING.
HE ISN'T PICKING UP. I THINK HIS PHONE IS OFF.


WHAT DOES KILLUA THINK?
HE ISN'T HERE...
WHAT, YOU SPLIT UP?


WE SHOULD TOUCH BASE, THE SOONER THE BETTER.
YEAH.
LET'S FIND A HALFWAY POINT TO MEET UP IN A CURRENT LOCATION.
HERE...
...IN MANDAI CITY...!!
CHECK-MATE.

YOU'RE DONE.
WHY DON'T YOU CONCEDE DEFEAT?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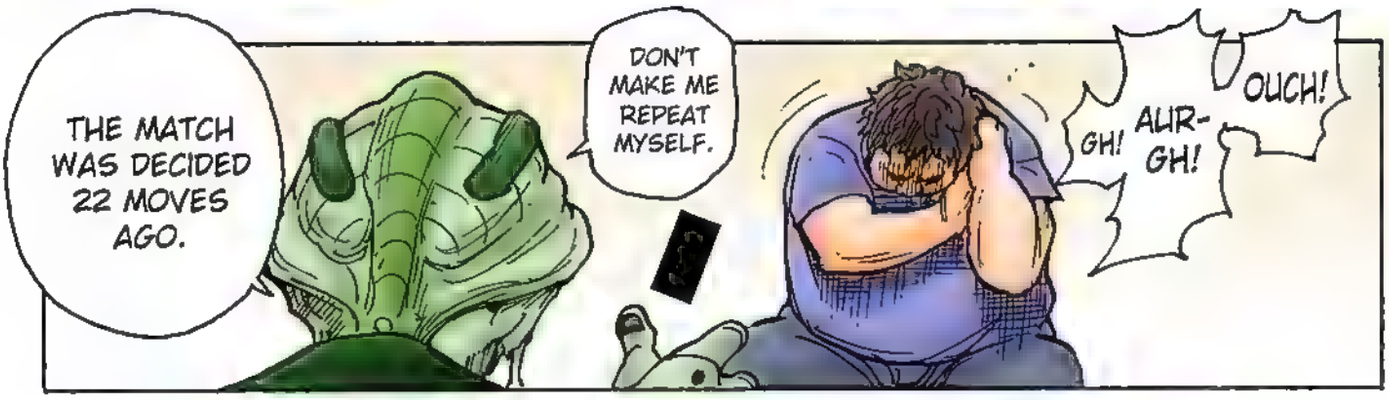
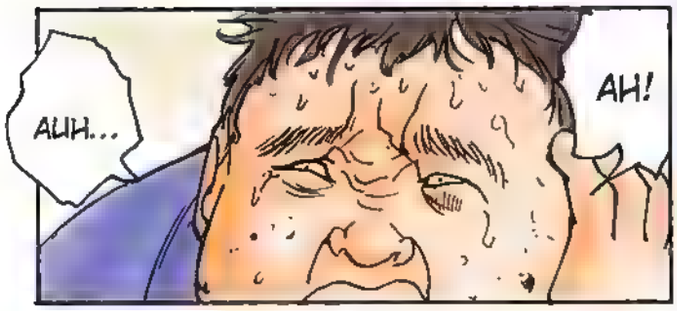
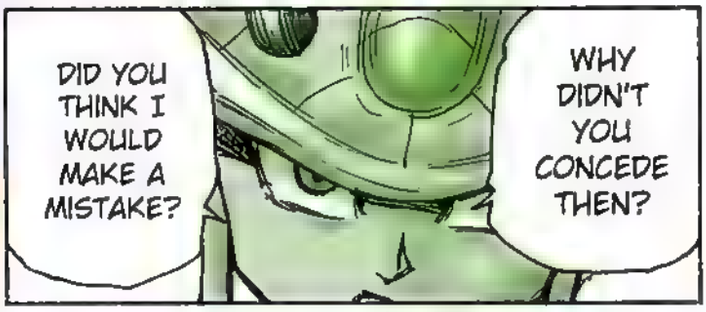
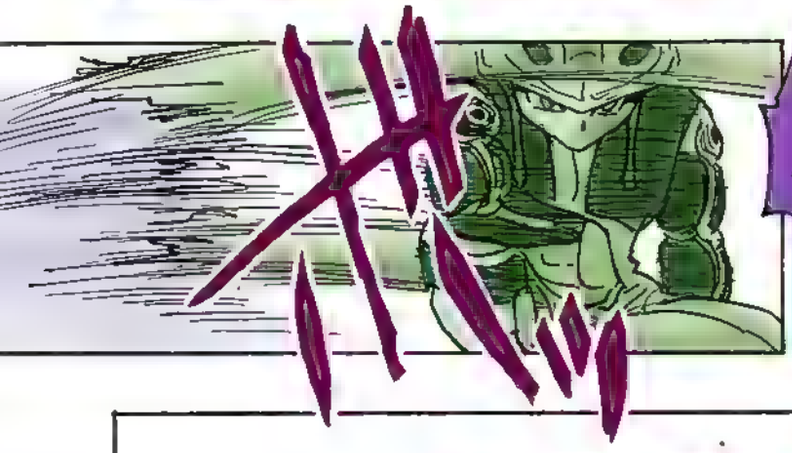
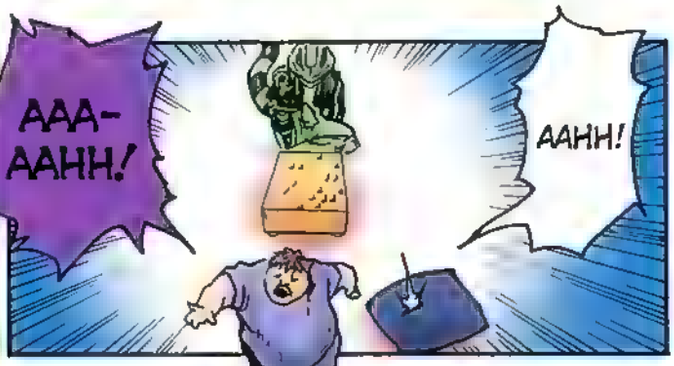
HUH?
.....

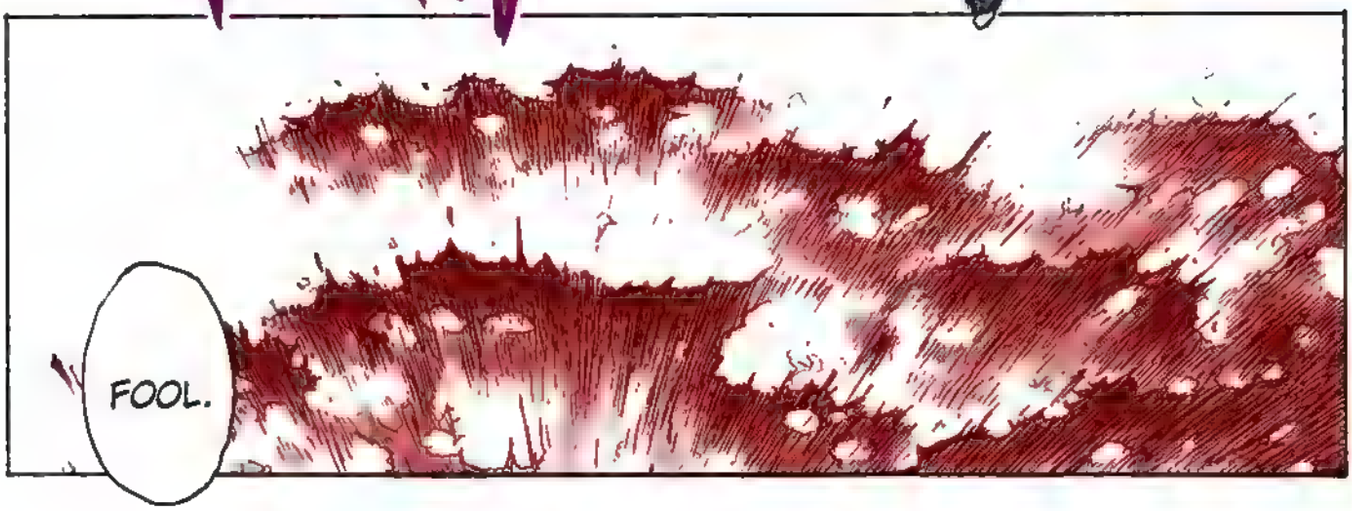

THE MATCH WAS DECIDED 22 MOVES AGO.
DON'T MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF.
GH!
AUR-GH!
OUCH!


AUH...
AH!


DID YOU THINK I WOULD MAKE A MISTAKE?
WHY DIDN'T YOU CONCEDE THEN?

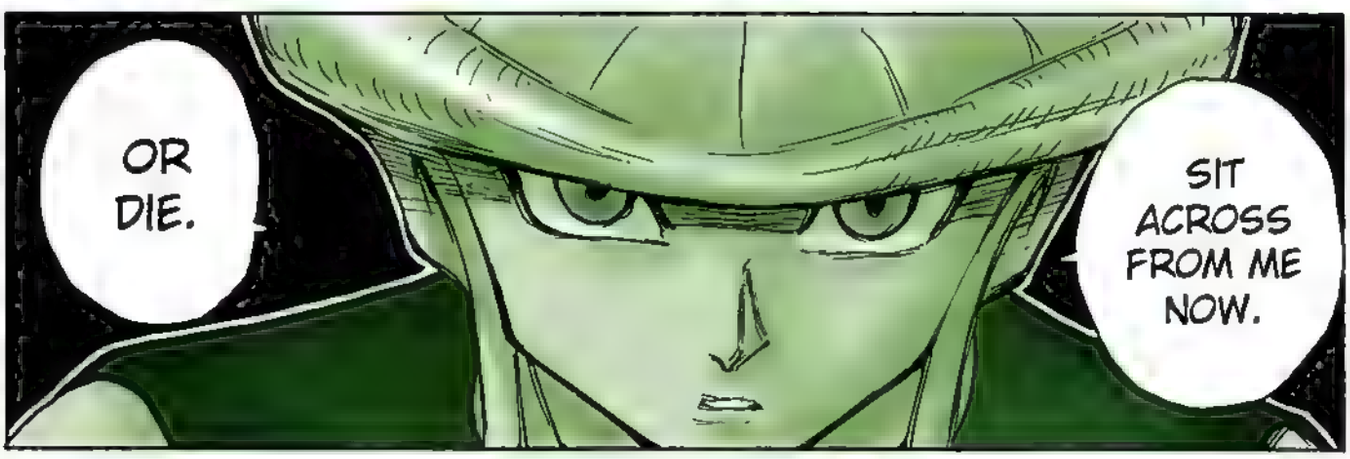


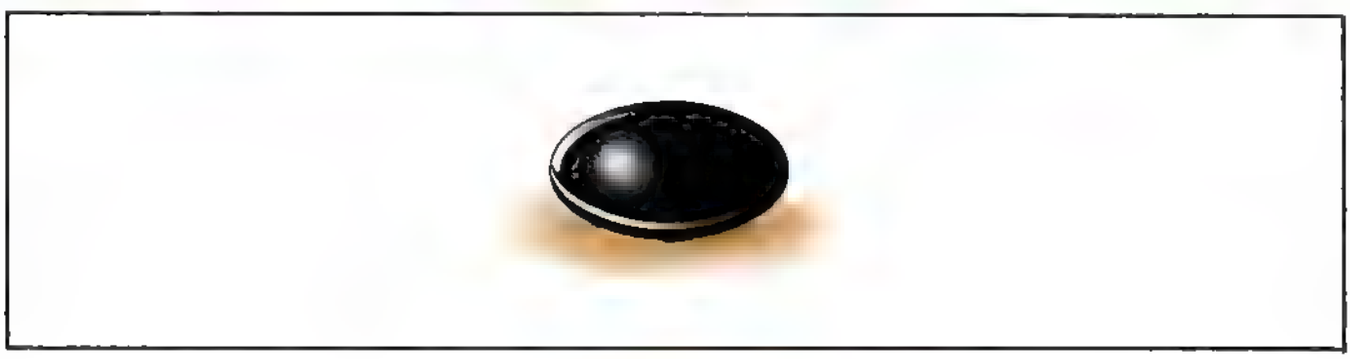

AAA-AAHH!
AAHH!


FOOL.

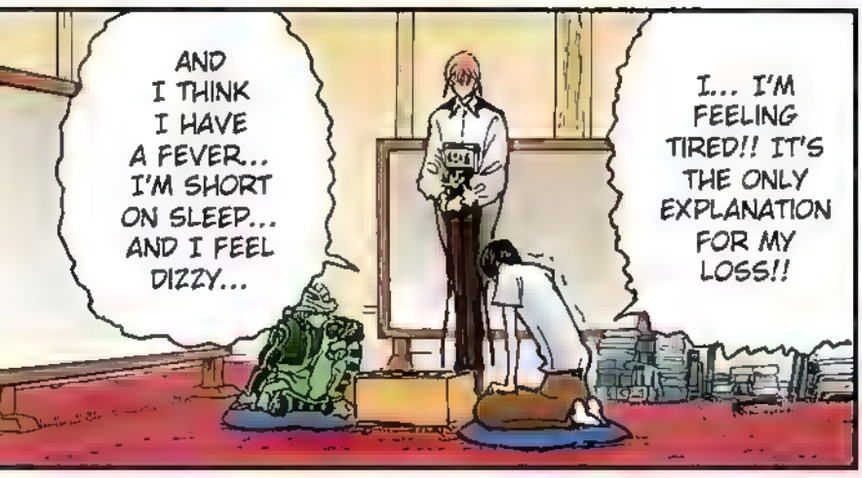
IT MIGHT LOOK SIMPLE AT FIRST, BUT IT IS A COMPLEX GAME.
GIVE ME THE RULE-BOOK.
NEXT UP, WE HAVE THE NATIONAL GO CHAMPION.
IT MAY TAKE MORE TIME TO LEARN THAN SHOGI.
SOME-BODY!! PLEASE HELP ME...!!
PLEASE!! LET ME GO!! WHAT DO YOU WANT...?!
YOU ARE IN THE KING'S PRESENCE.
SILENCE.
ドサ
AUGH!!

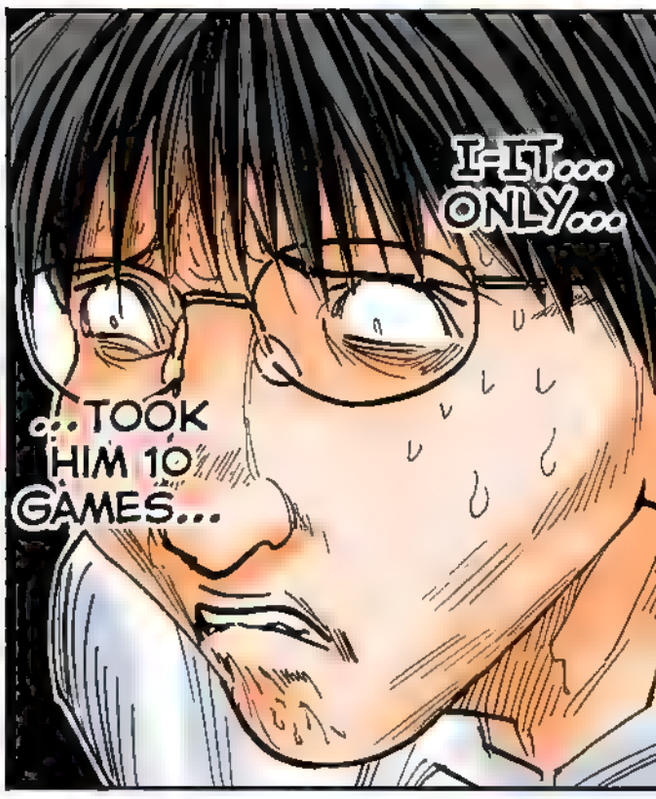
THE CHOICE IS YOURS.

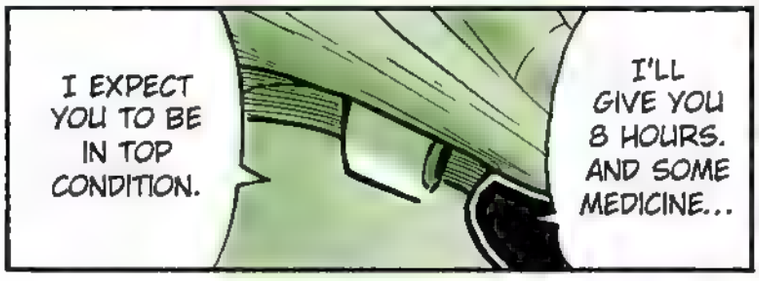


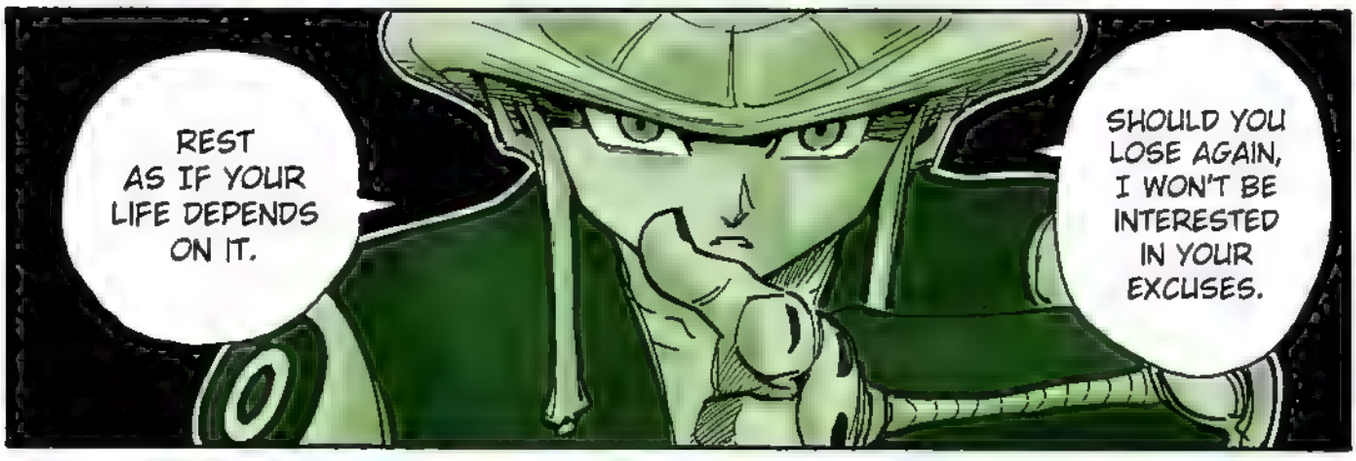


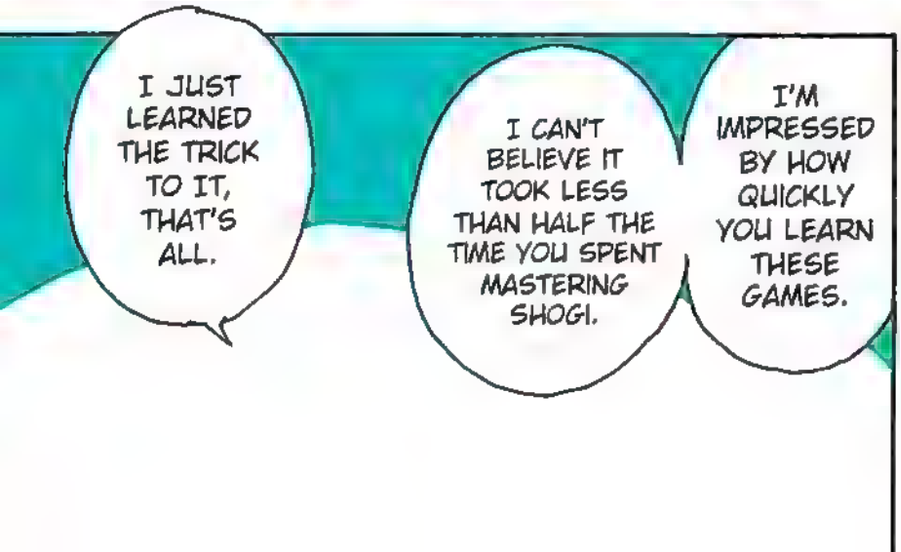
No.244 ◆ 6: PART ①

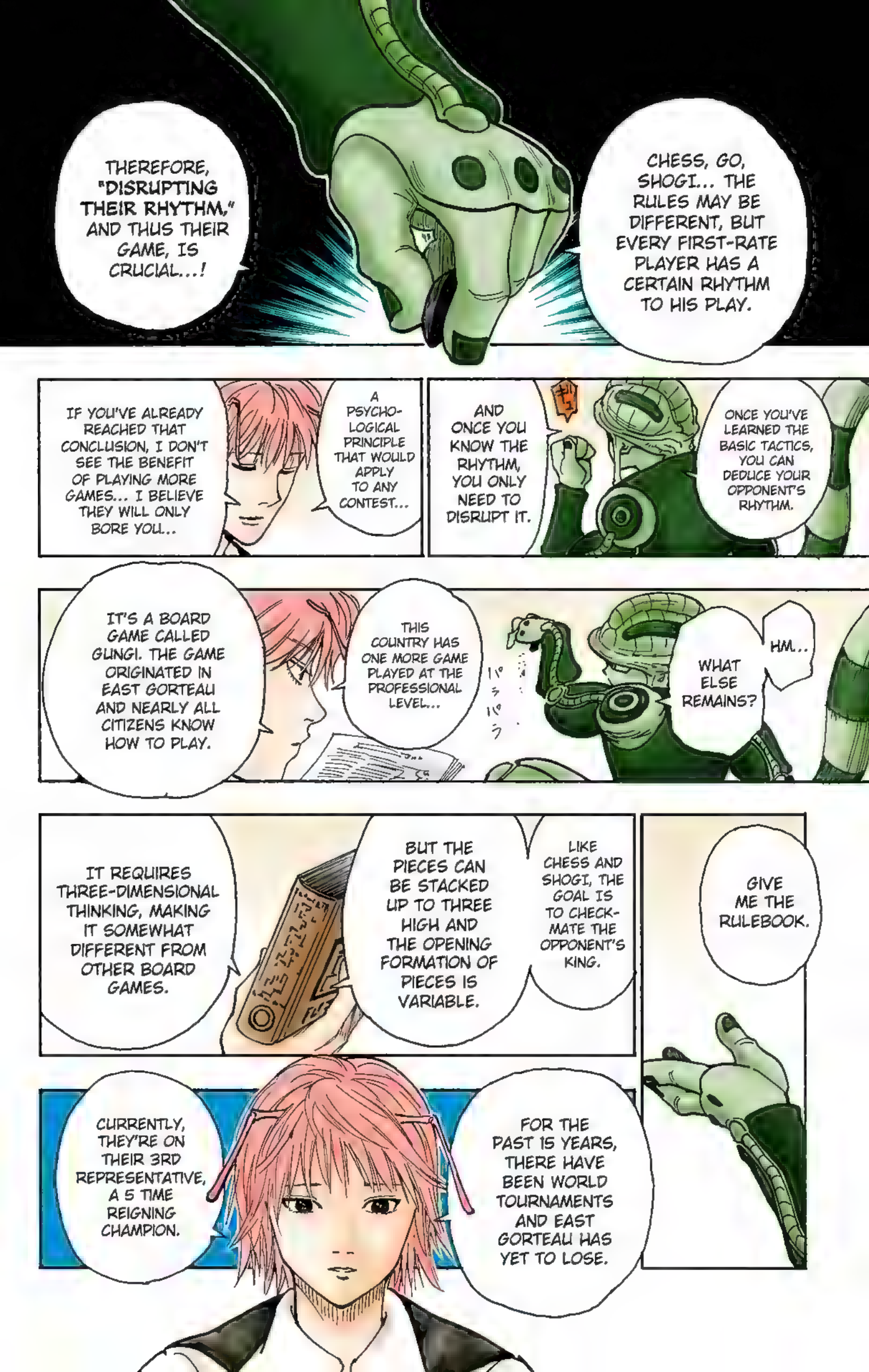




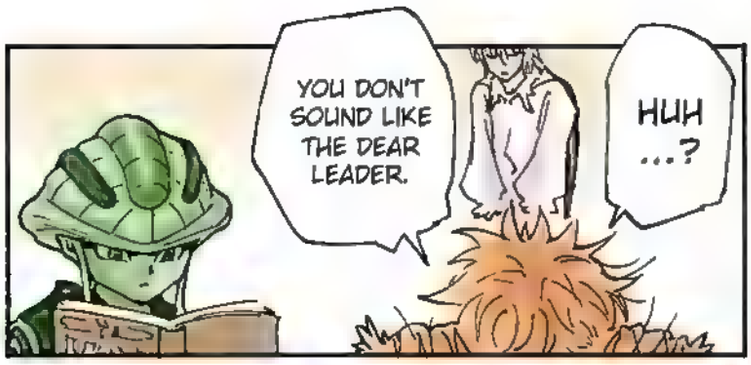




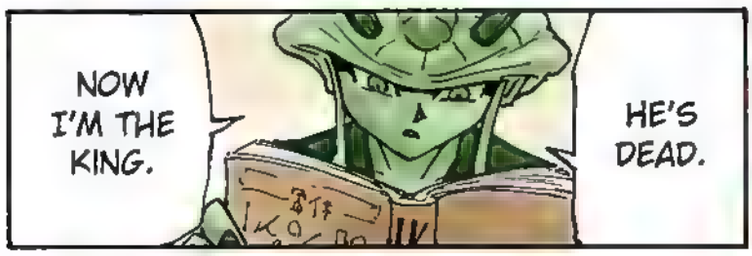



THEREFORE, "DISRUPTING THEIR RHYTHM," AND THUS THEIR GAME, IS CRUCIAL...!
CHESS, GO, SHOGI... THE RULES MAY BE DIFFERENT, BUT EVERY FIRST-RATE PLAYER HAS A CERTAIN RHYTHM TO HIS PLAY.
IF YOU'VE ALREADY REACHED THAT CONCLUSION, I DON'T SEE THE BENEFIT OF PLAYING MORE GAMES... I BELIEVE THEY WILL ONLY BORE YOU...
A PSYCHO-LOGICAL PRINCIPLE THAT WOULD APPLY TO ANY CONTEST...
AND ONCE YOU KNOW THE RHYTHM, YOU ONLY NEED TO DISRUPT IT.
ONCE YOU'VE LEARNED THE BASIC TACTICS, YOU CAN DEDUCE YOUR OPPONENT'S RHYTHM.
IT'S A BOARD GAME CALLED GUNGI. THE GAME ORIGINATED IN EAST GORTEAU AND NEARLY ALL CITIZENS KNOW HOW TO PLAY.
THIS COUNTRY HAS ONE MORE GAME PLAYED AT THE PROFESSIONAL LEVEL...
パラパラ
WHAT ELSE REMAINS?
HM...
IT REQUIRES THREE-DIMENSIONAL THINKING, MAKING IT SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM OTHER BOARD GAMES.
BUT THE PIECES CAN BE STACKED UP TO THREE HIGH AND THE OPENING FORMATION OF PIECES IS VARIABLE.
LIKE CHESS AND SHOGI, THE GOAL IS TO CHECK-MATE THE OPPONENT'S KING.
GIVE ME THE RULEBOOK.
CURRENTLY, THEY'RE ON THEIR 3RD REPRESENTATIVE, A 5 TIME REIGNING CHAMPION.
FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS, THERE HAVE BEEN WORLD TOURNAMENTS AND EAST GORTEAU HAS YET TO LOSE.

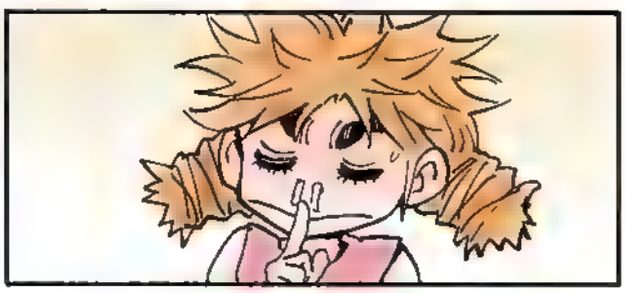
...I'LL BE THE BEST IN THE WORLD?
SO... IF I DEFEAT THIS CHAMPION...
CALL THEM OVER.
A FITTING CONCLUSION TO THIS DIVERSION.
A BLIND GIRL...
ズズ
NO NEED FOR SMALL TALK.
TH-TH-
THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME...
UH...
U-UM...


YOU DON'T SOUND LIKE THE DEAR LEADER.
HUH ...?

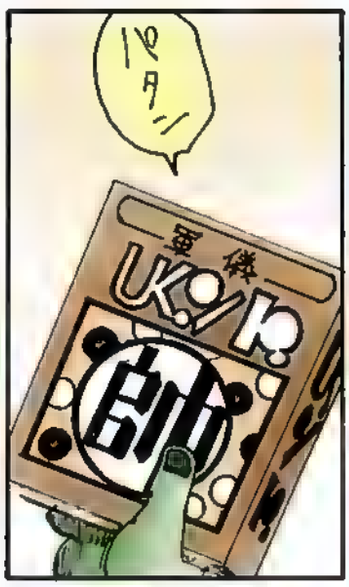
RIGHT NOW, I'M LEARNING THE RULES, SO YOU MUST WAIT.
YOU AND I WILL PLAY GUNGI.


NOW I'M THE KING.
HE'S DEAD.

OR I'LL KILL YOU.
YOU'RE DISTRACTING ME. SHUT UP.
I SAY THE RONG HINGS TOO-
I'M QUITE STUPID, AND IGNORANT OF WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE WORLD!!
OH! I'M S-SO SORRY, PLEASE FORGIVE ME!!



LET'S BEGIN.
OKAY, I UNDER-STAND IT NOW.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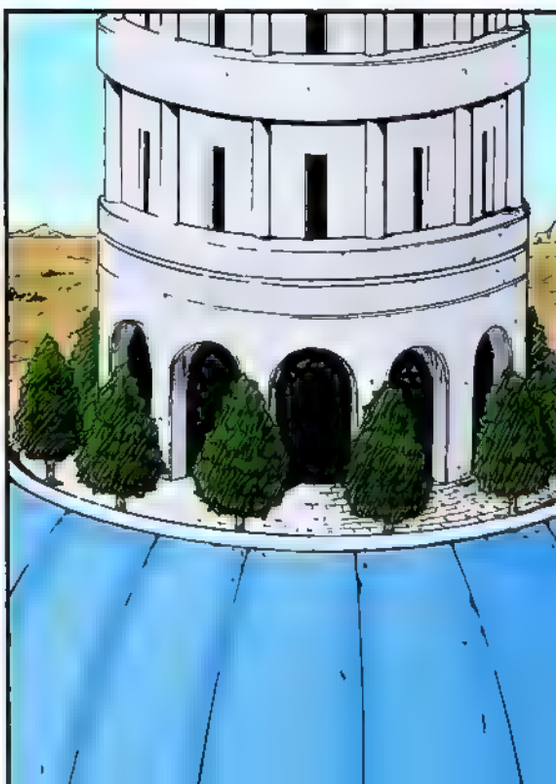
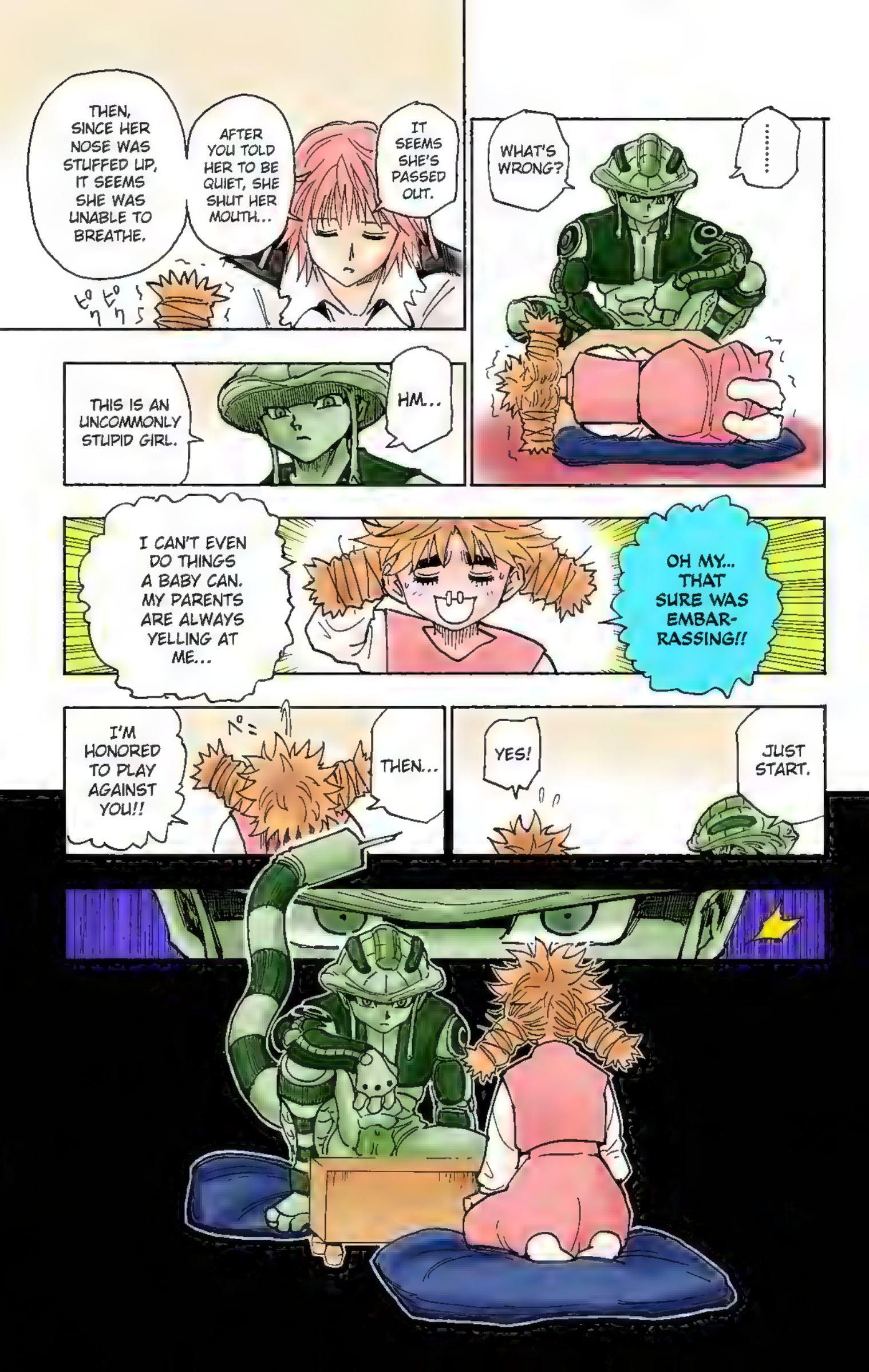
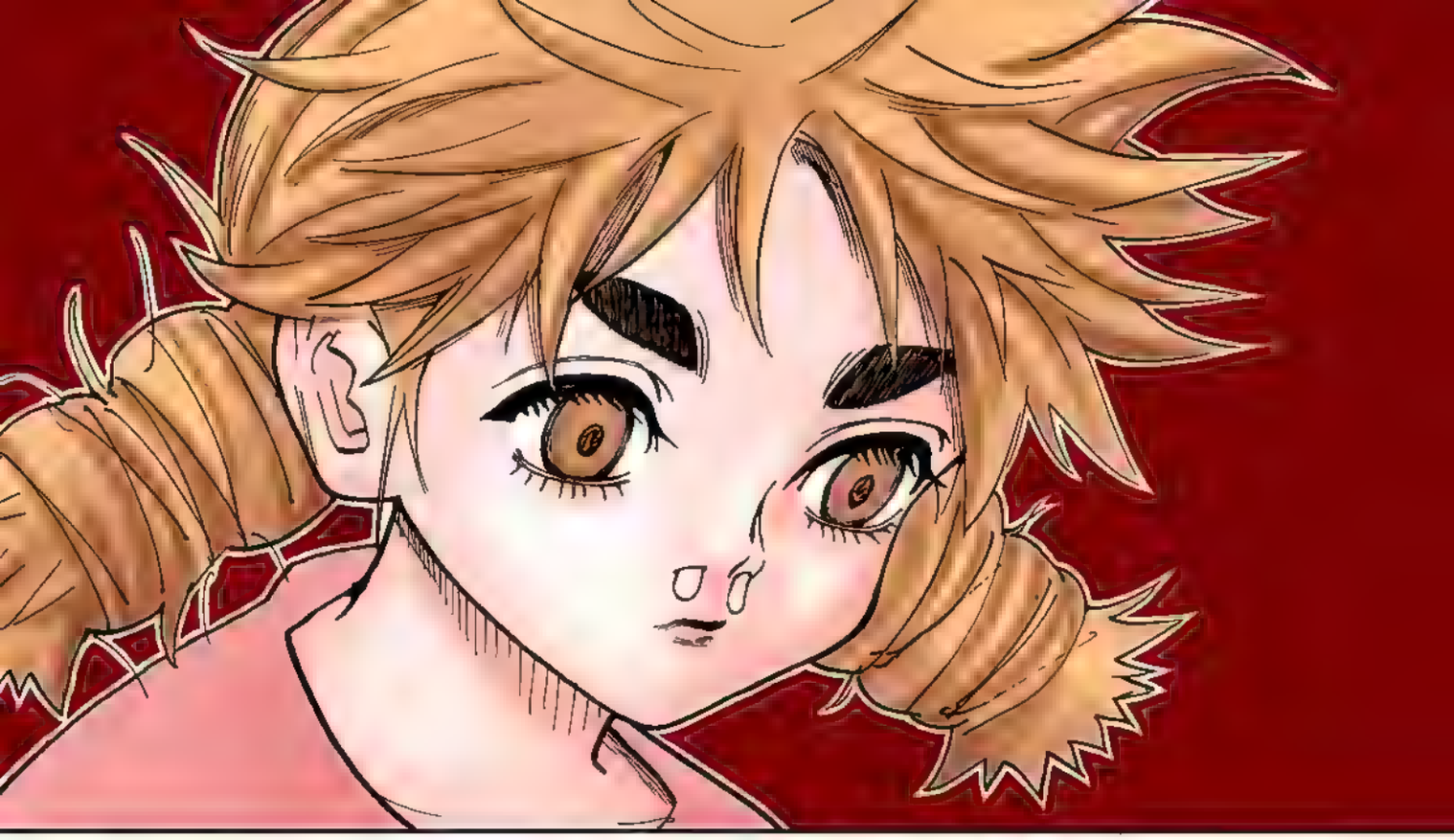
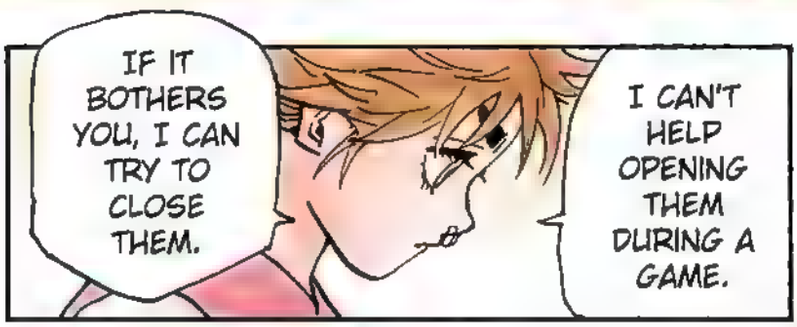
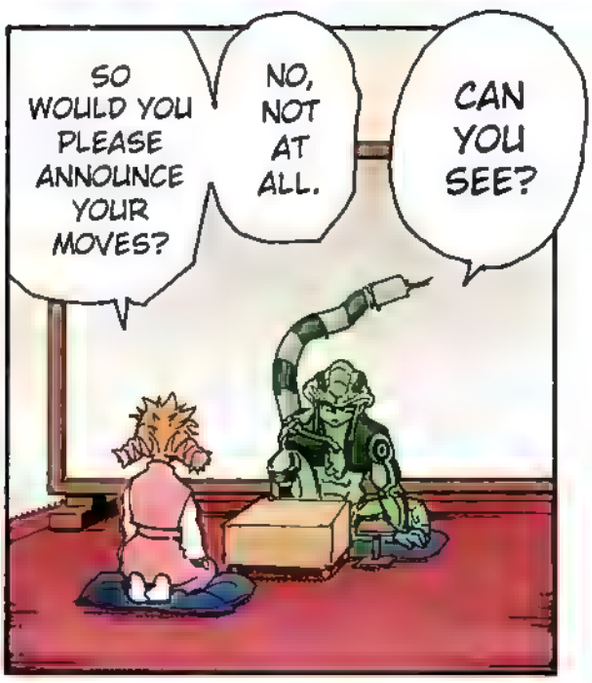
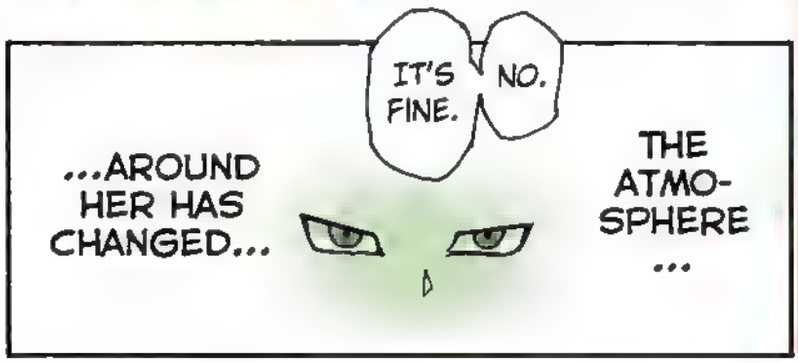



THEN, SINCE HER NOSE WAS STUFFED UP, IT SEEMS SHE WAS UNABLE TO BREATHE.
AFTER YOU TOLD HER TO BE QUIET, SHE SHUT HER MOUTH...
IT SEEMS SHE'S PASSED OUT.
WHAT'S WRONG?
.....
THIS IS AN UNCOMMONLY STUPID GIRL.
HM...
I CAN'T EVEN DO THINGS A BABY CAN. MY PARENTS ARE ALWAYS YELLING AT ME...
OH MY... THAT SURE WAS EMBAR-RASSING!!
I'M HONORED TO PLAY AGAINST YOU!!
THEN...
YES!
JUST START.



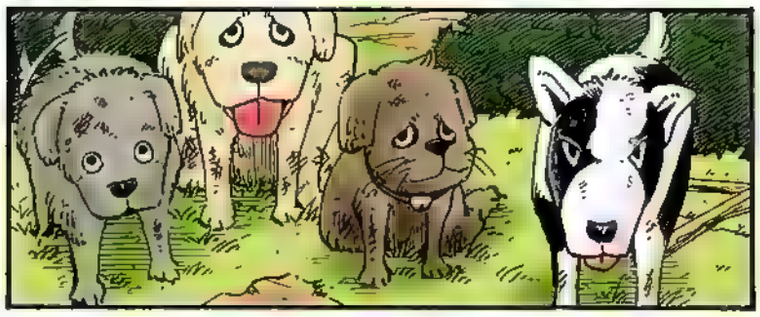

IF IT BOTHERS YOU, I CAN TRY TO CLOSE THEM.
I CAN'T HELP OPENING THEM DURING A GAME.

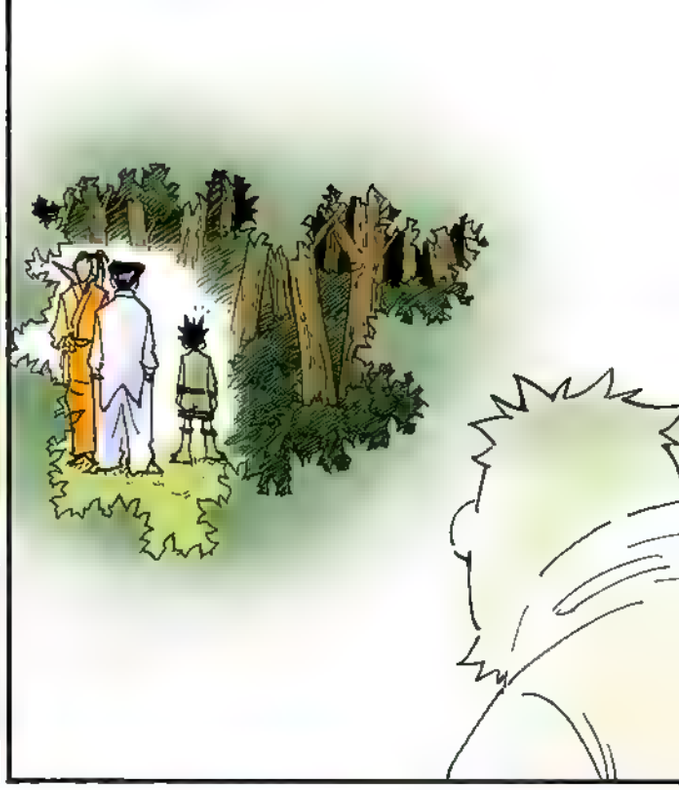

SO WOULD YOU PLEASE ANNOUNCE YOUR MOVES?
NO, NOT AT ALL.
CAN YOU SEE?


IT'S FINE.
NO.
...AROUND HER HAS CHANGED...
THE ATMO-SPHERE ...

SOLDIER 4-4-1.

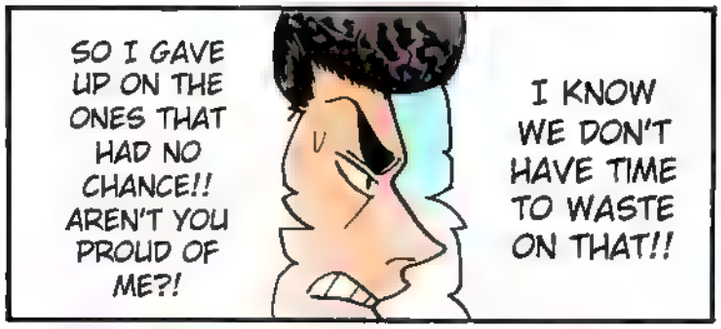
NO.
YOU CAN'T REACH HIM AT ALL?
THEN WE HAVE TO WAIT FOR HIM TO CALL.
DAMN!
WE AGREED THAT HE WOULD INITIATE ALL CONTACT, SO I GUESS I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED.
I GUESS HIS PHONE IS OFF.
.....
HE'D NEVER GIVE ME A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN!! WHATEVER I SAY WILL GO IN ONE EAR AND OUT THE OTHER!!
AND THE OTHER ONE HAS NO EYEBROWS, AND THAT EXPRESSION MAKES IT LOOK LIKE HE'S SCARED AND SUSPICIOUS OF EVERYTHING!!
AND THE LOOK ON HIS FACE SAYS HE'S ALWAYS ITCHING FOR A FIGHT.
WHAT THE HELL? WHY DOES THAT GUY LOOK LIKE HE WAS BORN IN THE WRONG DECADE WITH THAT HAIRCUT?!
...THERE'S NO WAY I'LL BE ABLE TO TRUST THEM! I GUARANTEE IT!!
GON!! I'M SORRY TO SAY THAT MY FIRST IMPRESSIONS ARE SUPER BAD!! UNLESS I GET SOME REALLY GOOD NEWS SOON...

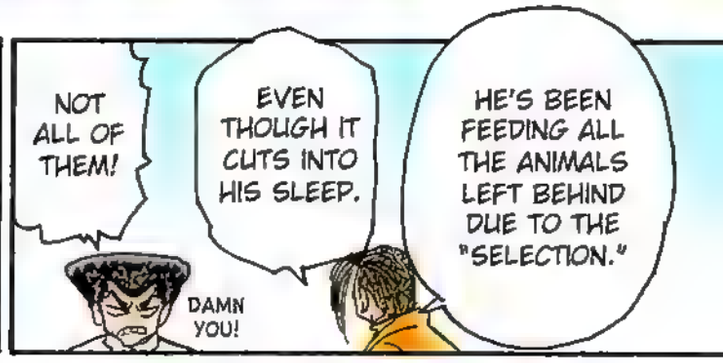




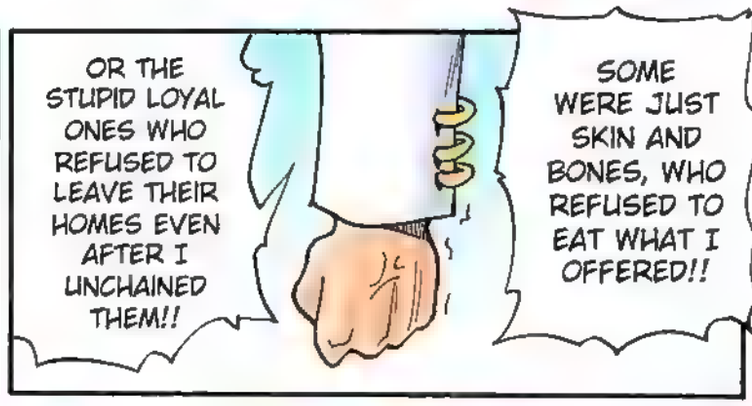
BEATS ME.
WHAT'S WITH ALL THESE DOGS?

JUST A PACK OF STRAYS, I GUESS.
BUT, THEY ALL HAVE COLLARS.
.....

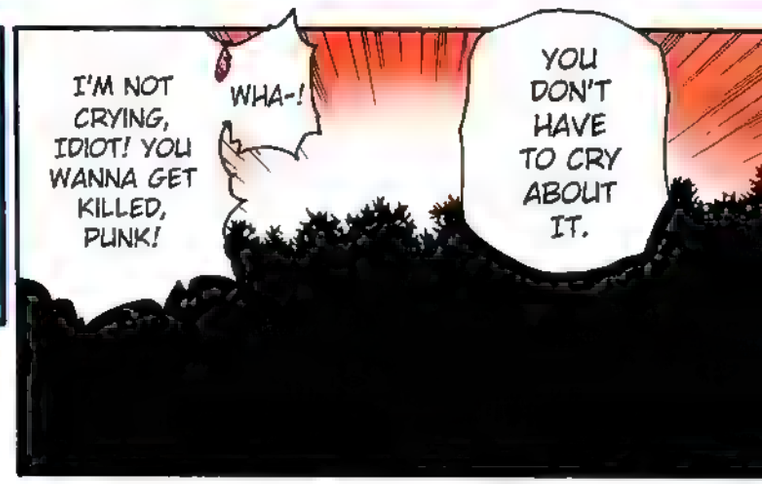

SO I GAVE UP ON THE ONES THAT HAD NO CHANCE!! AREN'T YOU PROUD OF ME?!
I KNOW WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO WASTE ON THAT!!


NOT ALL OF THEM!
EVEN THOUGH IT CUTS INTO HIS SLEEP.
HE'S BEEN FEEDING ALL THE ANIMALS LEFT BEHIND DUE TO THE "SELECTION."
DAMN YOU!

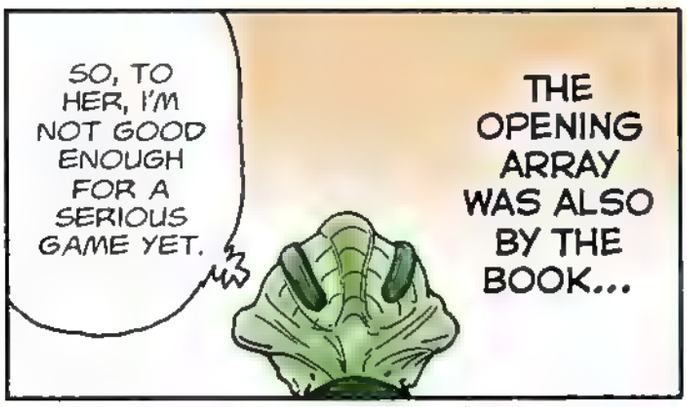
.....
WHAT'S SO BAD ABOUT SAVING THE ONES THAT WANT THE HELP?!


OR THE STUPID LOYAL ONES WHO REFUSED TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES EVEN AFTER I UNCHAINED THEM!!
SOME WERE JUST SKIN AND BONES, WHO REFUSED TO EAT WHAT I OFFERED!!

WELL, MAYBE A LITTLE...
THAT WON'T BE ENOUGH TO RAISE MY OPINION!!
HMPH ...!
.

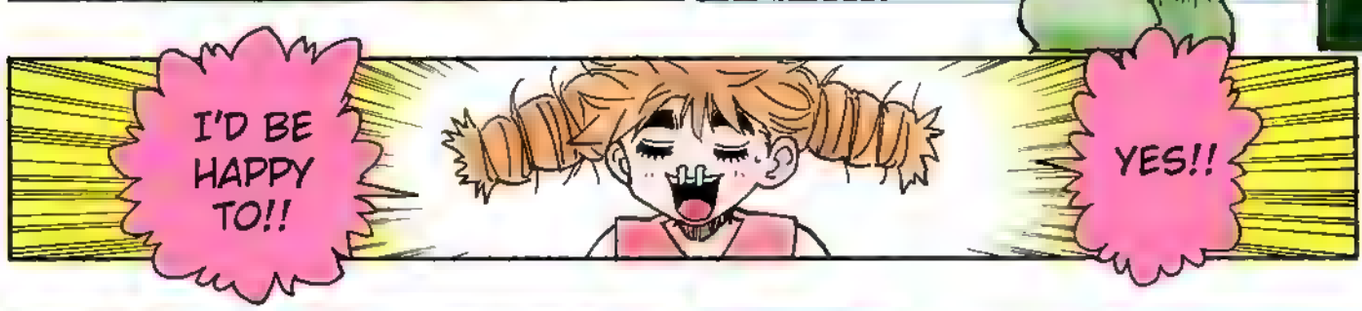

I'M NOT CRYING, IDIOT! YOU WANNA GET KILLED, PUNK!
WHA-!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO CRY ABOUT IT.

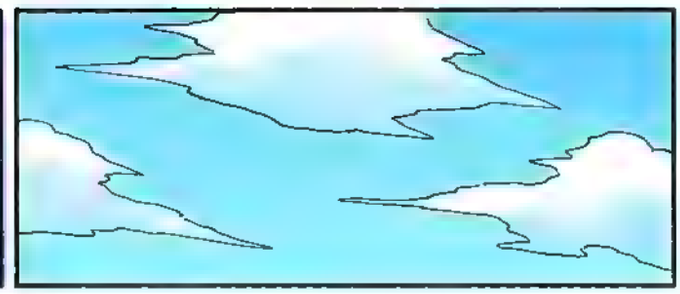
CHECK-MATE.
SHINOBI 7-8-2.

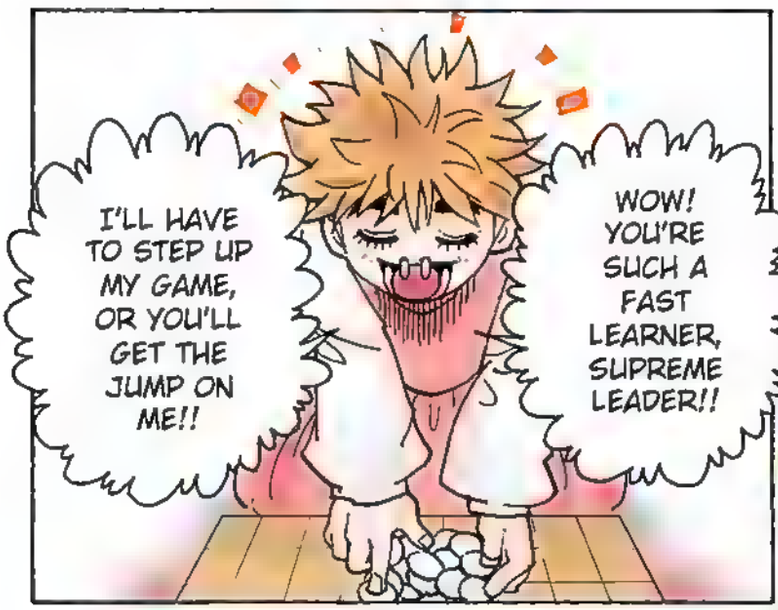

SO, TO HER, I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR A SERIOUS GAME YET.
THE OPENING ARRAY WAS ALSO BY THE BOOK...

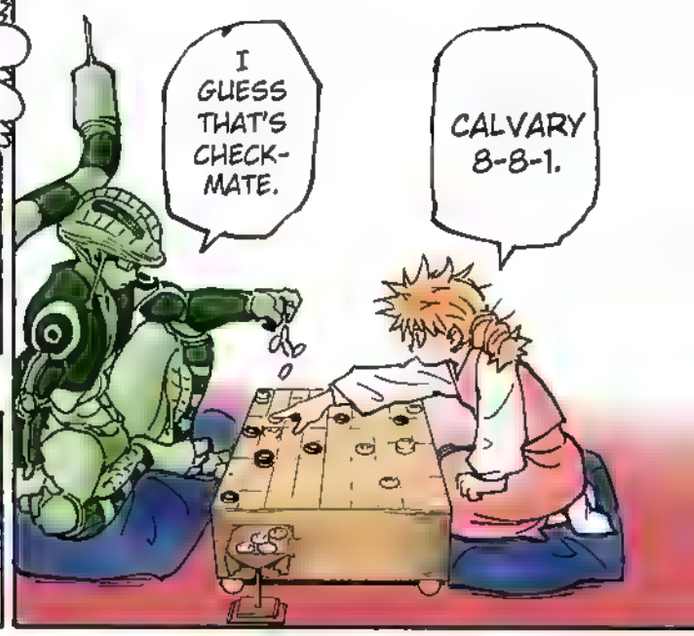
ANOTHER GAME.

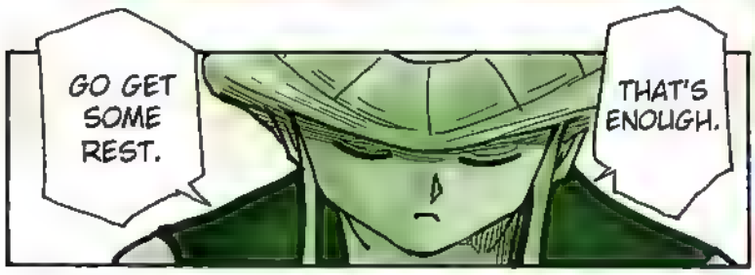
A TYPICAL YAGURA CASTLE... NOTHING PARTICULARLY STRIKING IN THAT STRATEGY.
A STRATEGY TO STACK A BOW AS A BASIS FOR BOTH OFFENSE AND DEFENSE...

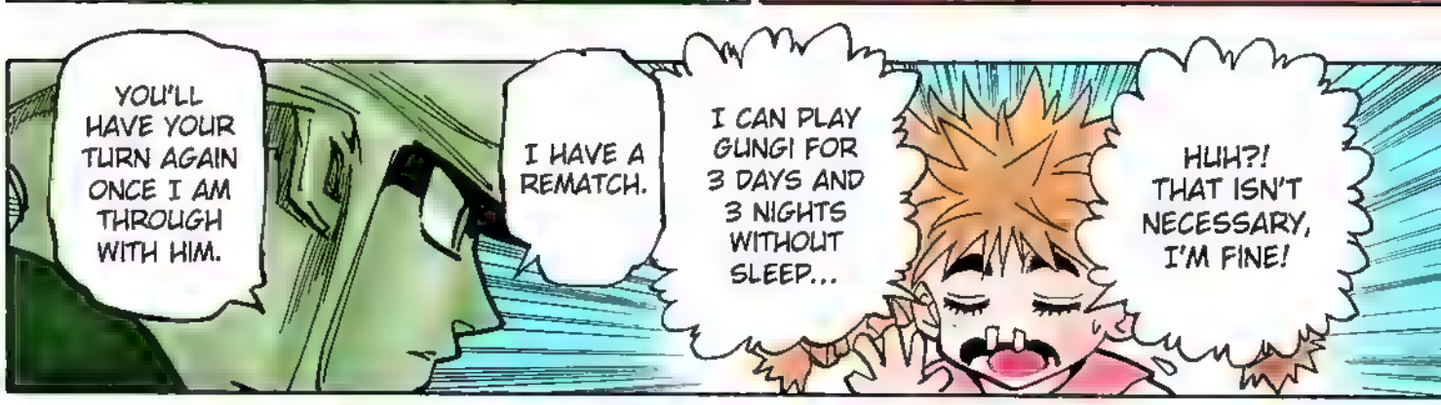

I'D BE HAPPY TO!!
YES!!

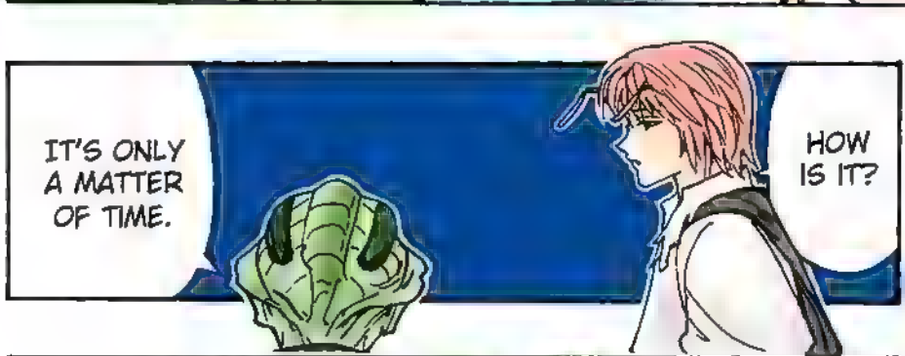


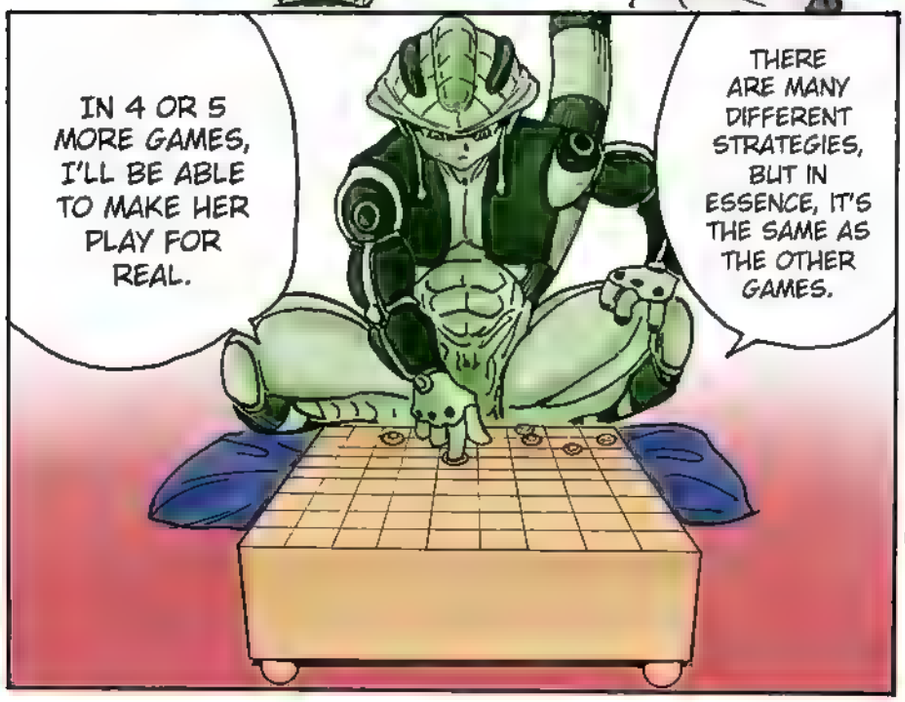

I'LL HAVE TO STEP UP MY GAME, OR YOU'LL GET THE JUMP ON ME!!
WOW! YOU'RE SUCH A FAST LEARNER, SUPREME LEADER!!

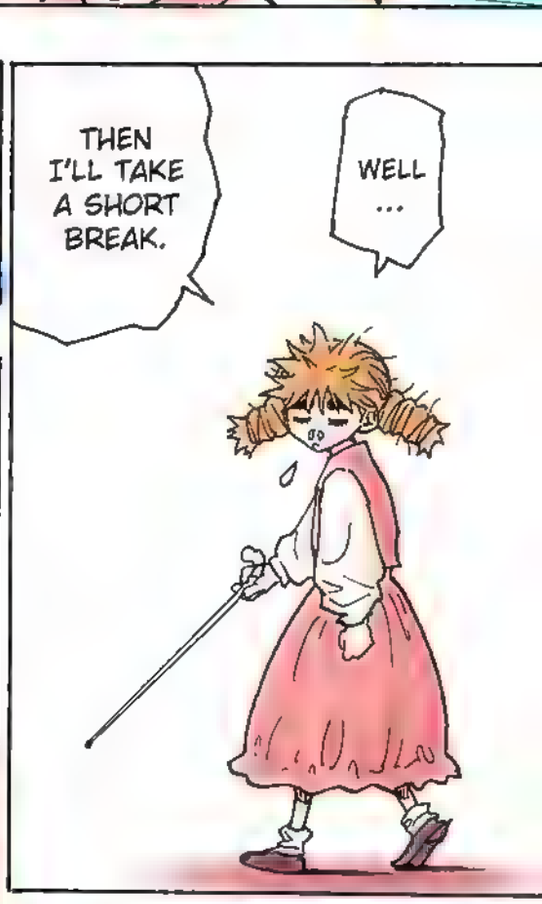

I GUESS THAT'S CHECK-MATE.
CALVARY 8-8-1.


GO GET SOME REST.
THAT'S ENOUGH.

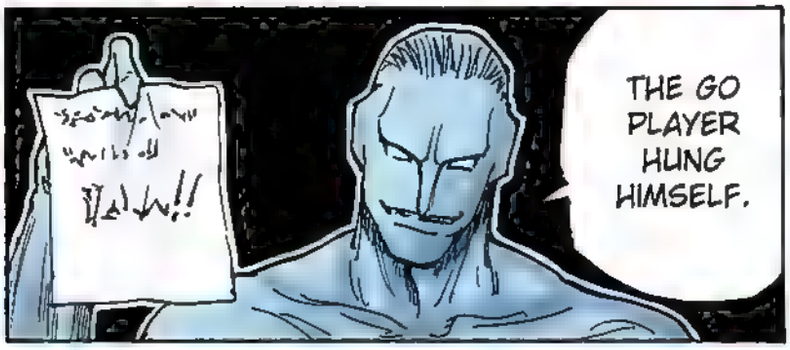

YOU'LL HAVE YOUR TURN AGAIN ONCE I AM THROUGH WITH HIM.
I HAVE A REMATCH.
I CAN PLAY GUNGI FOR 3 DAYS AND 3 NIGHTS WITHOUT SLEEP...
HUH?! THAT ISN'T NECESSARY, I'M FINE!


IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.
HOW IS IT?


IN 4 OR 5 MORE GAMES, I'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE HER PLAY FOR REAL.
THERE ARE MANY DIFFERENT STRATEGIES, BUT IN ESSENCE, IT'S THE SAME AS THE OTHER GAMES.

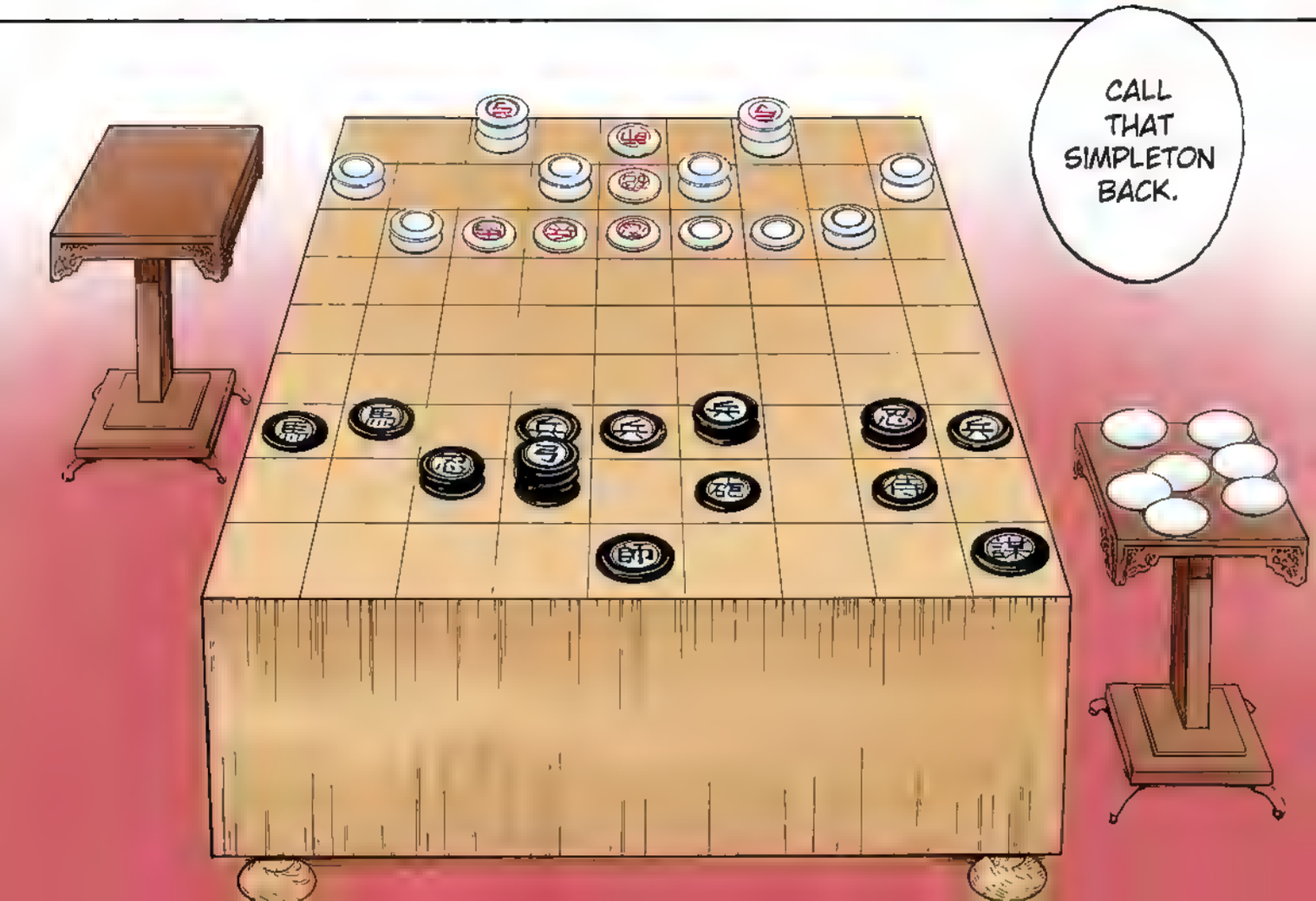

THEN I'LL TAKE A SHORT BREAK.
WELL ...

IT'S ALL THE SAME.
ONCE THAT HAPPENS, I SHALL BE ABLE TO OBSERVE HER RHYTHM.

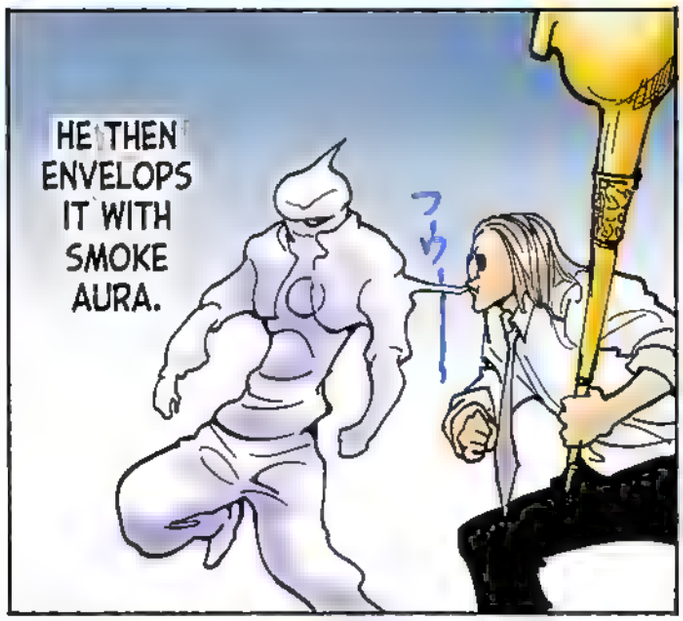

THE GO PLAYER HUNG HIMSELF.

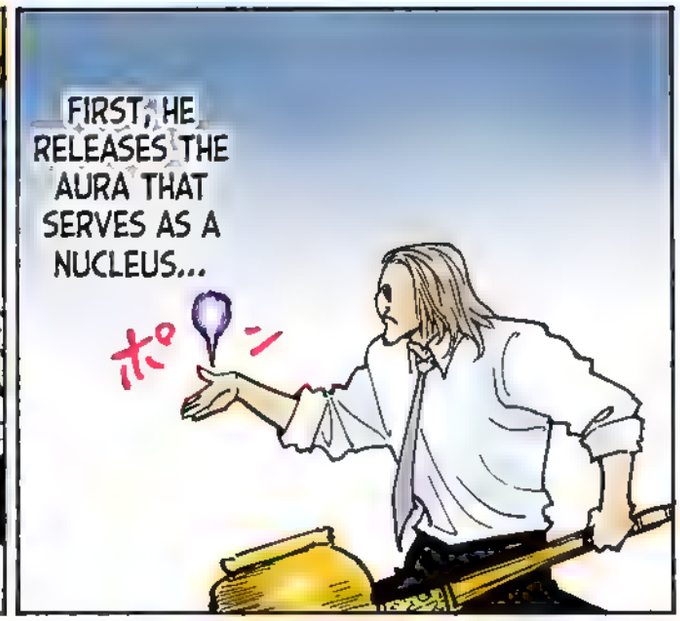
YOUR MAJESTY.

HEH HEH.


CALL THAT SIMPLETON BACK.

SMOKE TROOPERS: DEEP PURPLE!!


HE THEN ENVELOPS IT WITH SMOKE AURA.


FIRST, HE RELEASES THE AURA THAT SERVES AS A NUCLEUS...
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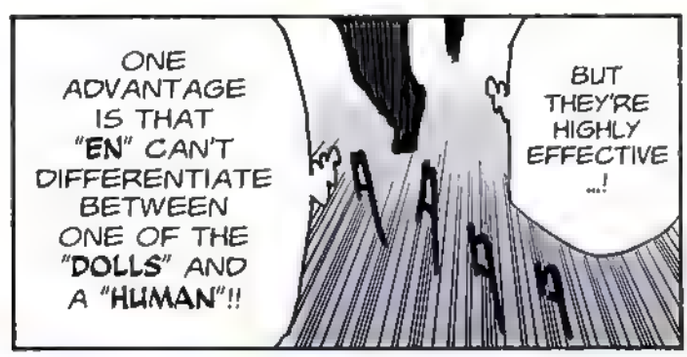
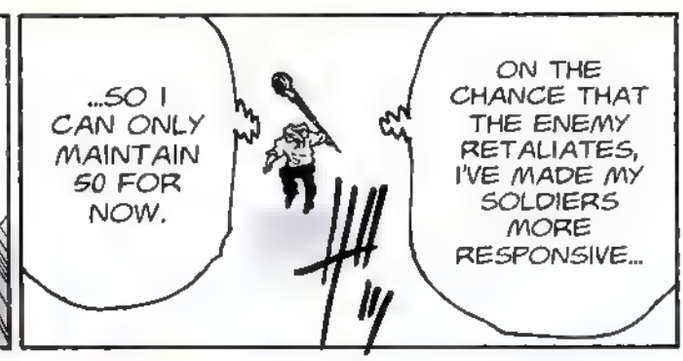
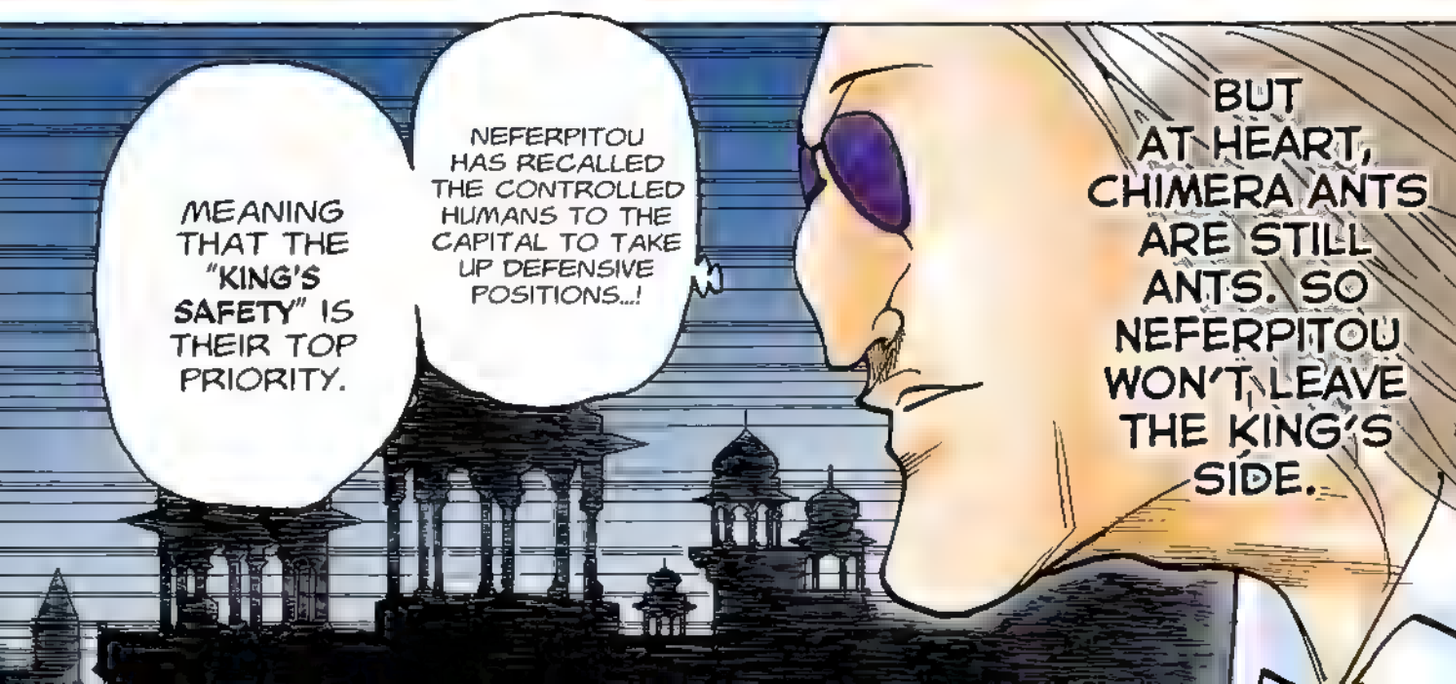
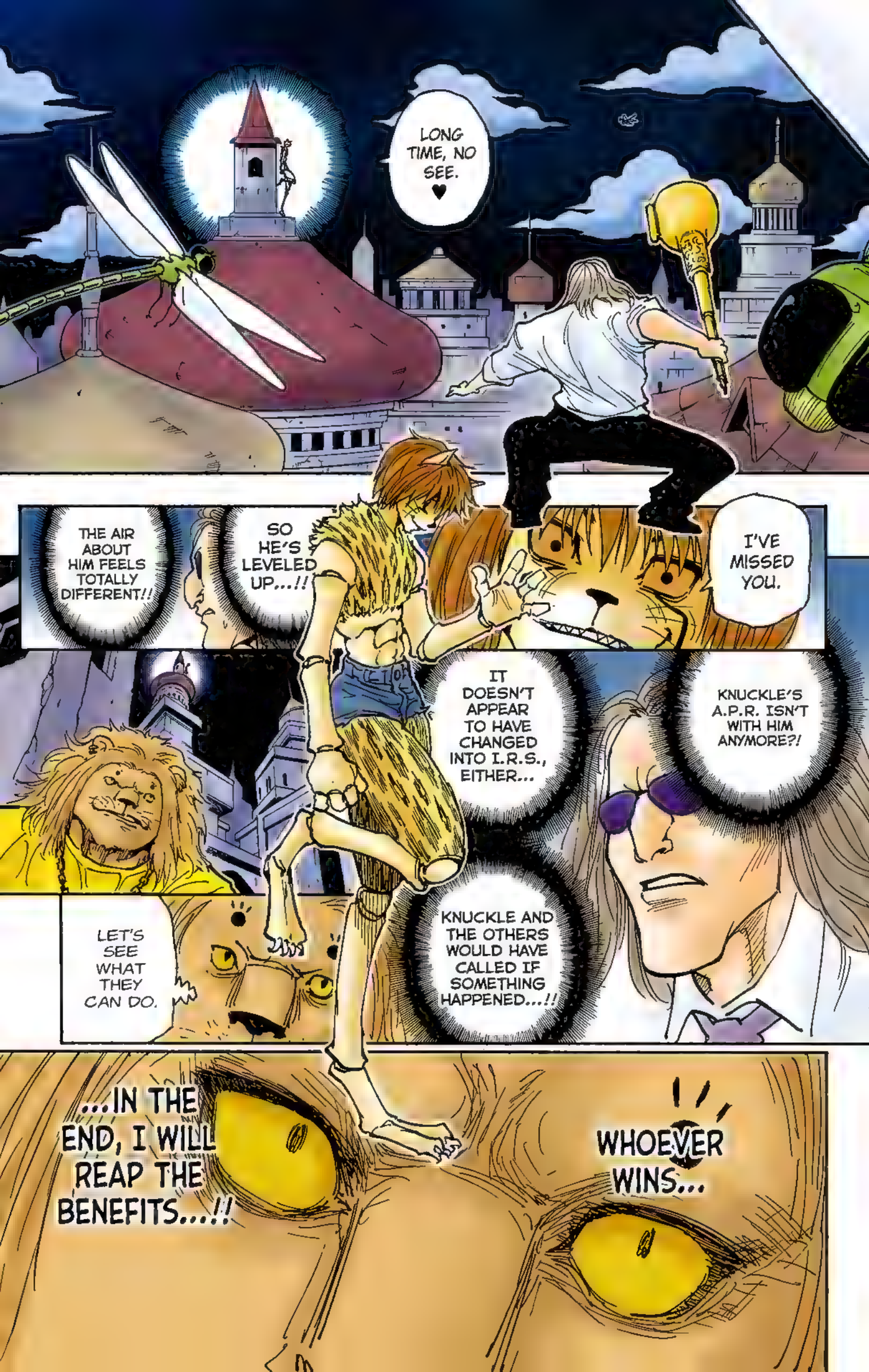
HIS ABILITY CAN SUSTAIN 216 PUPPETS AT ONCE!!
THIS CREATES A FREE-MOVING SMOKE PUPPET THAT HE CAN COMMAND THROUGH PROGRAMMED NEN WITH THE NUCLEUS!!

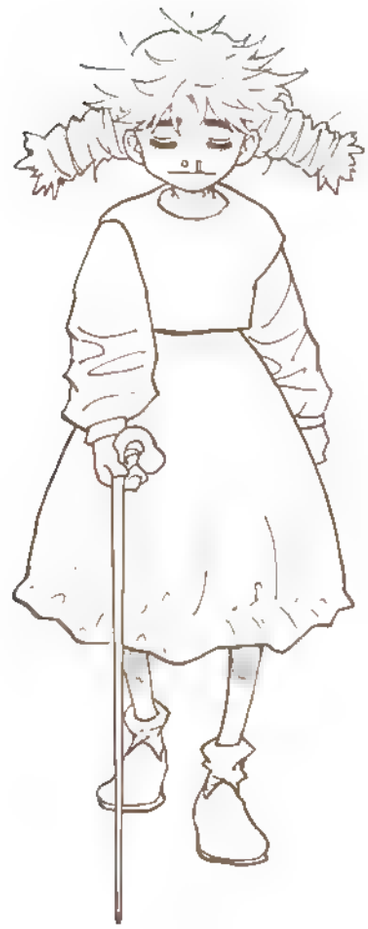

ONE ADVANTAGE IS THAT "EN" CAN'T DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN ONE OF THE "DOLLS" AND A "HUMAN"!!
BUT THEY'RE HIGHLY EFFECTIVE ...!


...SO I CAN ONLY MAINTAIN SO FOR NOW.
ON THE CHANCE THAT THE ENEMY RETALIATES, I'VE MADE MY SOLDIERS MORE RESPONSIVE...

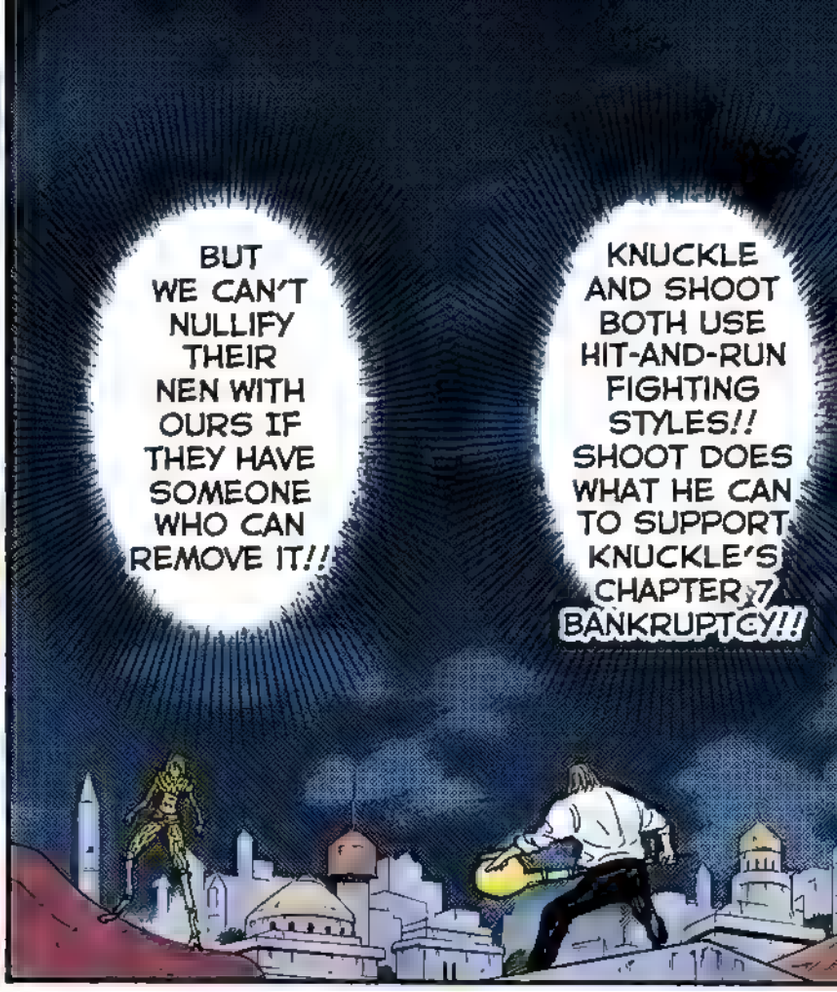

MEANING THAT THE "KING'S SAFETY" IS THEIR TOP PRIORITY.
NEFERPITOU HAS RECALLED THE CONTROLLED HUMANS TO THE CAPITAL TO TAKE UP DEFENSIVE POSITIONS...!
BUT AT HEART, CHIMERA ANTS ARE STILL ANTS. SO NEFERPITOU WON'T LEAVE THE KING'S SIDE.

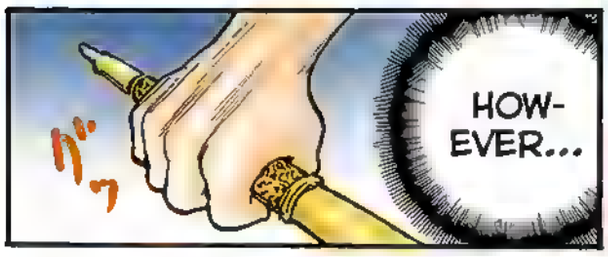
ドッ
THEN RESTRICTING THE MOVEMENT OF THE ROYAL GUARDS WILL BE EASY!! ...QUESTION IS, HOW WILL THE KING RESPOND?
IF WE'RE DEALING WITH A KING WHO DOES AS HE PLEASES, IT'LL BE HARDER TO ANTICIPATE HIS ACTIONS AND THE RISK OF A MISCALCULATION INCREASES.
IF THEY KEEP THIS UP, WE'LL BE FINE.
!!


LONG TIME, NO SEE. ♥
THE AIR ABOUT HIM FEELS TOTALLY DIFFERENT!!
SO HE'S LEVELED UP...!!
I'VE MISSED YOU.
IT DOESN'T APPEAR TO HAVE CHANGED INTO I.R.S., EITHER...
KNUCKLE'S A.P.R. ISN'T WITH HIM ANYMORE?!
LET'S SEE WHAT THEY CAN DO.
KNUCKLE AND THE OTHERS WOULD HAVE CALLED IF SOMETHING HAPPENED...!!
...IN THE END, I WILL REAP THE BENEFITS...!!
WHOEVER WINS...



I OWE YOU ONE.
KNUCKLE'S A.P.R IS GONE...!
FIRST, I'LL BEAT YOU DOWN.
THEY HAVE SOMEONE WHO CAN REMOVE NEN?!
OR DID HE DO IT HIMSELF ?!
AND THE POMPADOUR GUY WILL BE NEXT.
WE'LL SEE ABOUT THAT.
IF THAT ABILITY IS TO EXORCISE NEN... WE'RE IN TROUBLE!!
HE'S CONFIDENT... FOR A REASON!! HE MUST HAVE GAINED A NEW ABILITY...!
No.245 ◆ 6: PART ②





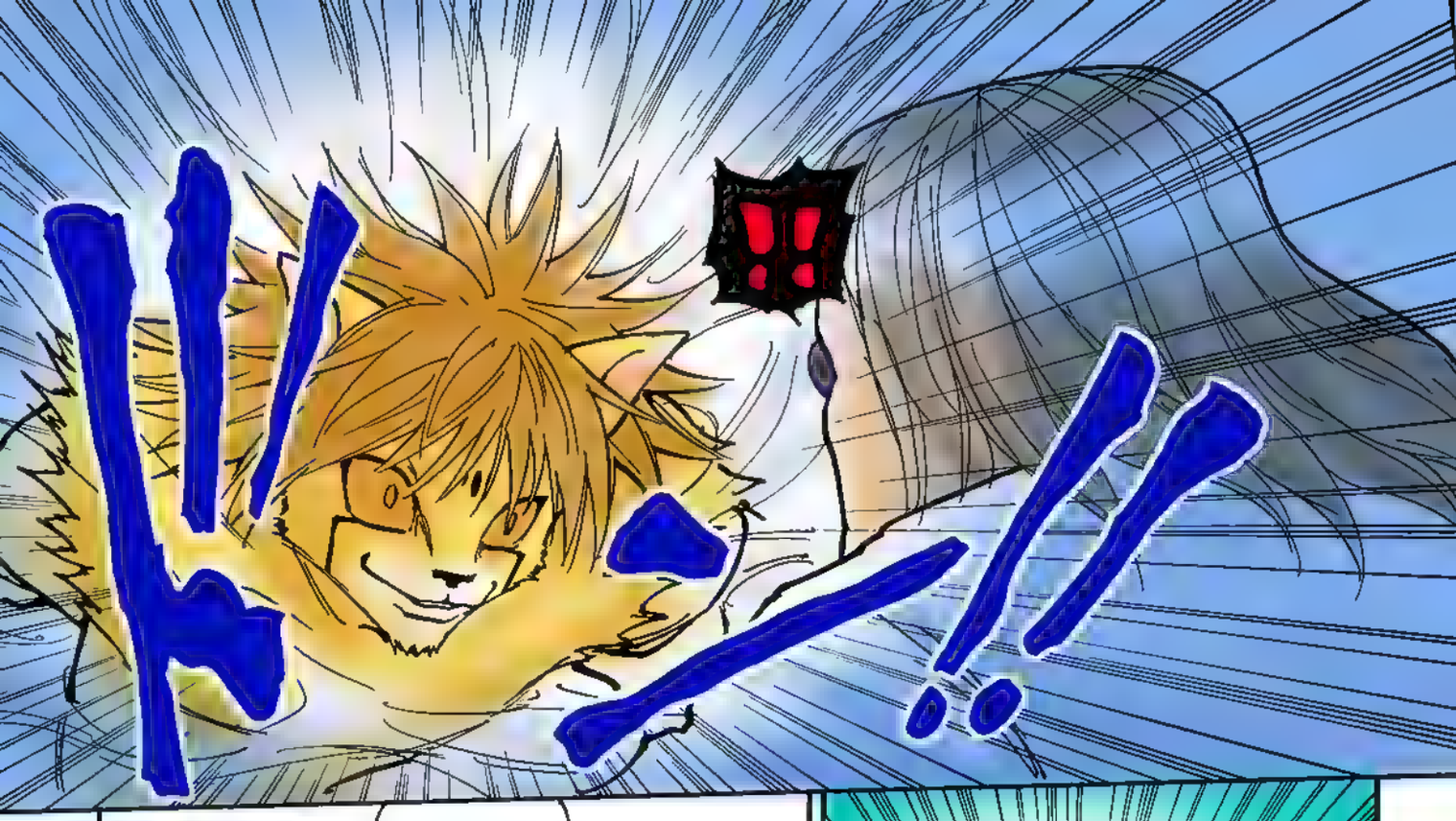
IF I NEUTRALIZE HIM HERE, KNUCKLE AND SHOOT CAN USE THEIR POWERS!!

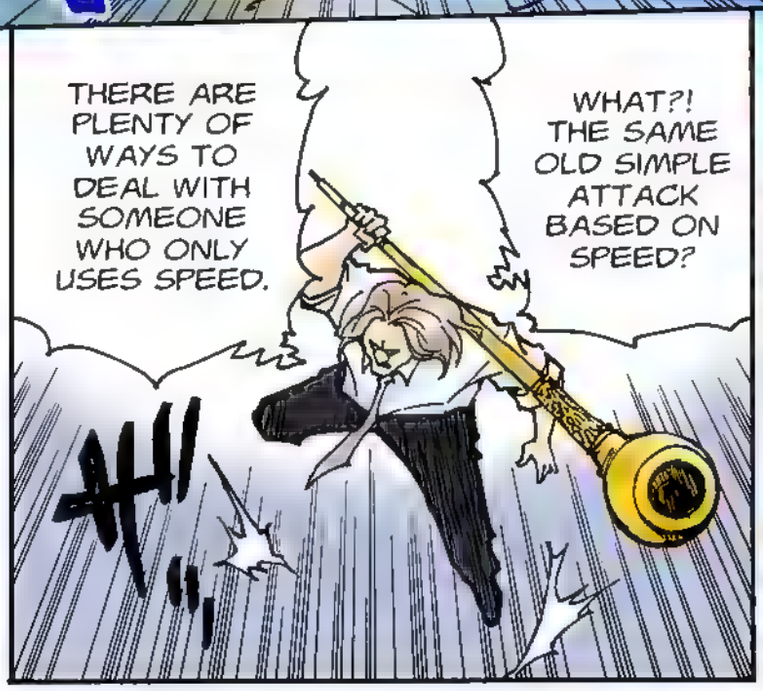
IF HE HAS THE ABILITY TO EXORCISE NEN, THIS IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY!!

I CAN'T DEAC-TIVATE "DEEP PURPLE" YET!!

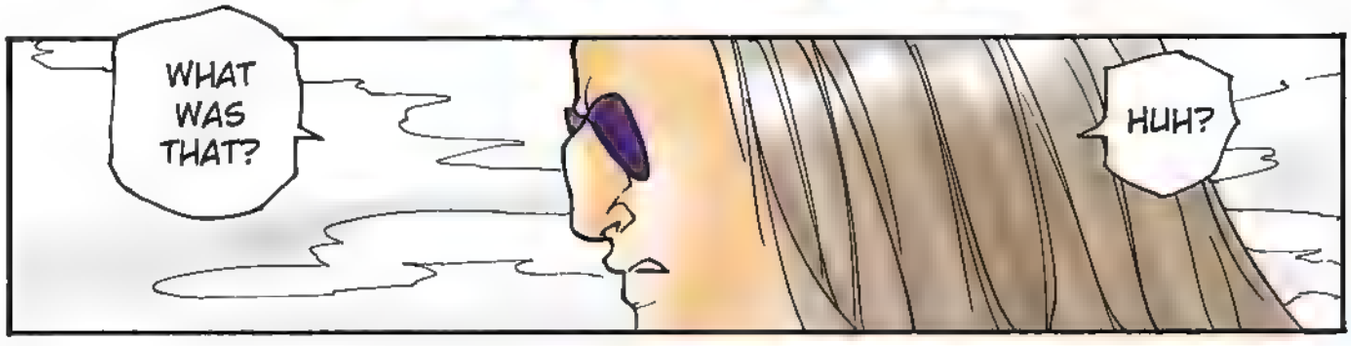
SO I'LL HAVE TO GET BY ON MY REMAINING AURA!!

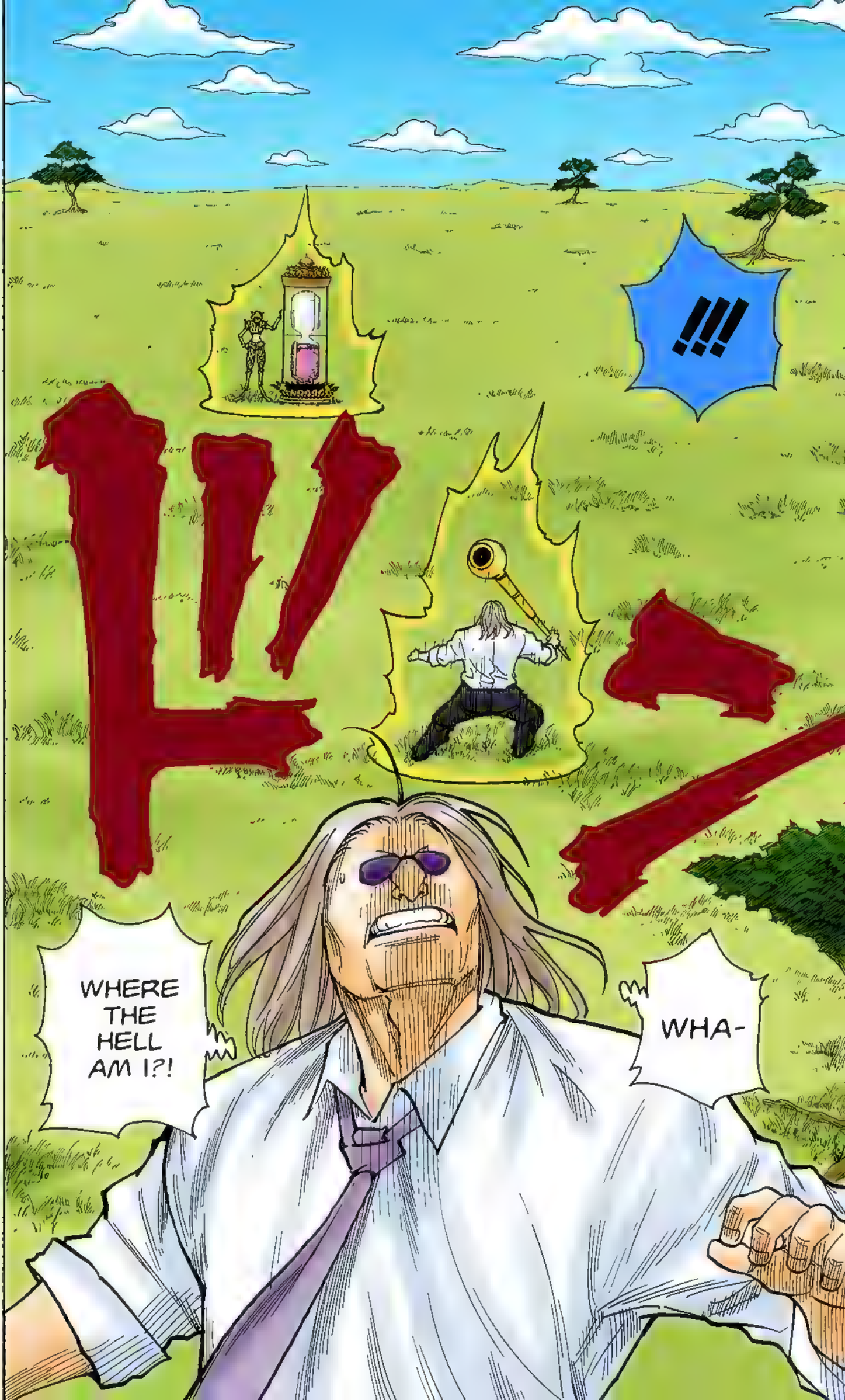
I HAVE TO DO IT...!!

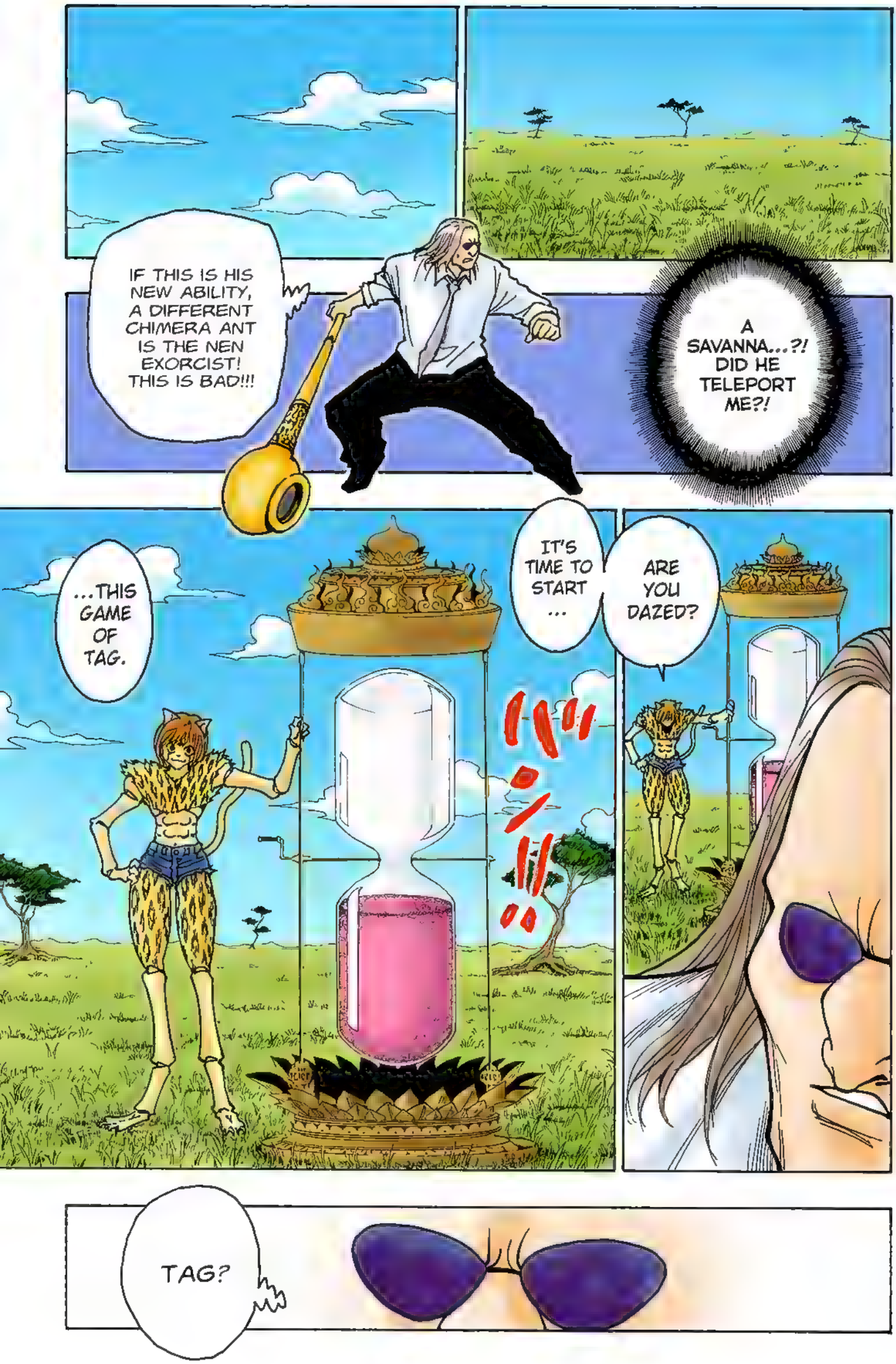

ドン!!!
!!

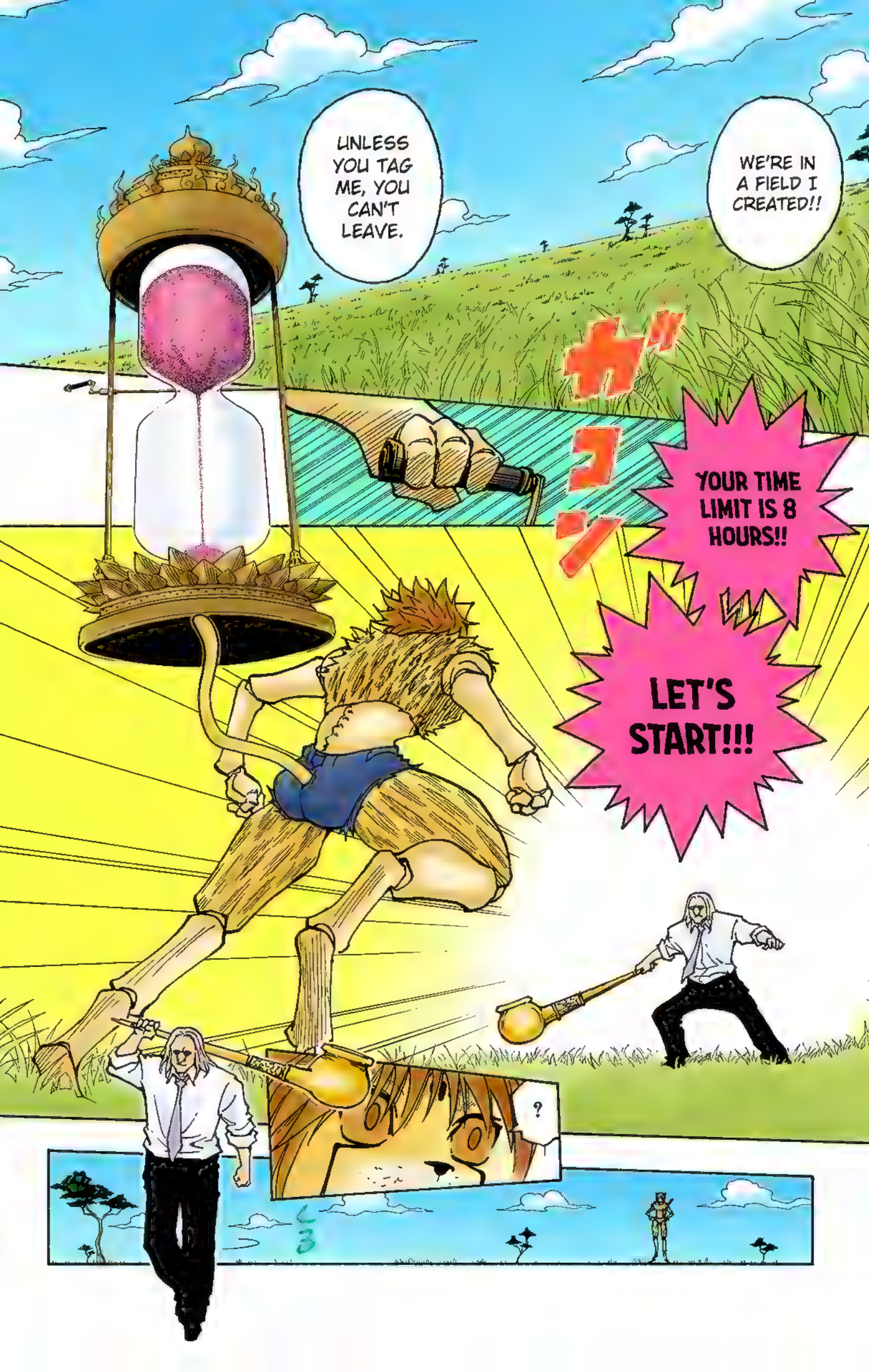

THERE ARE PLENTY OF WAYS TO DEAL WITH SOMEONE WHO ONLY USES SPEED.
WHAT?! THE SAME OLD SIMPLE ATTACK BASED ON SPEED?
AH!!

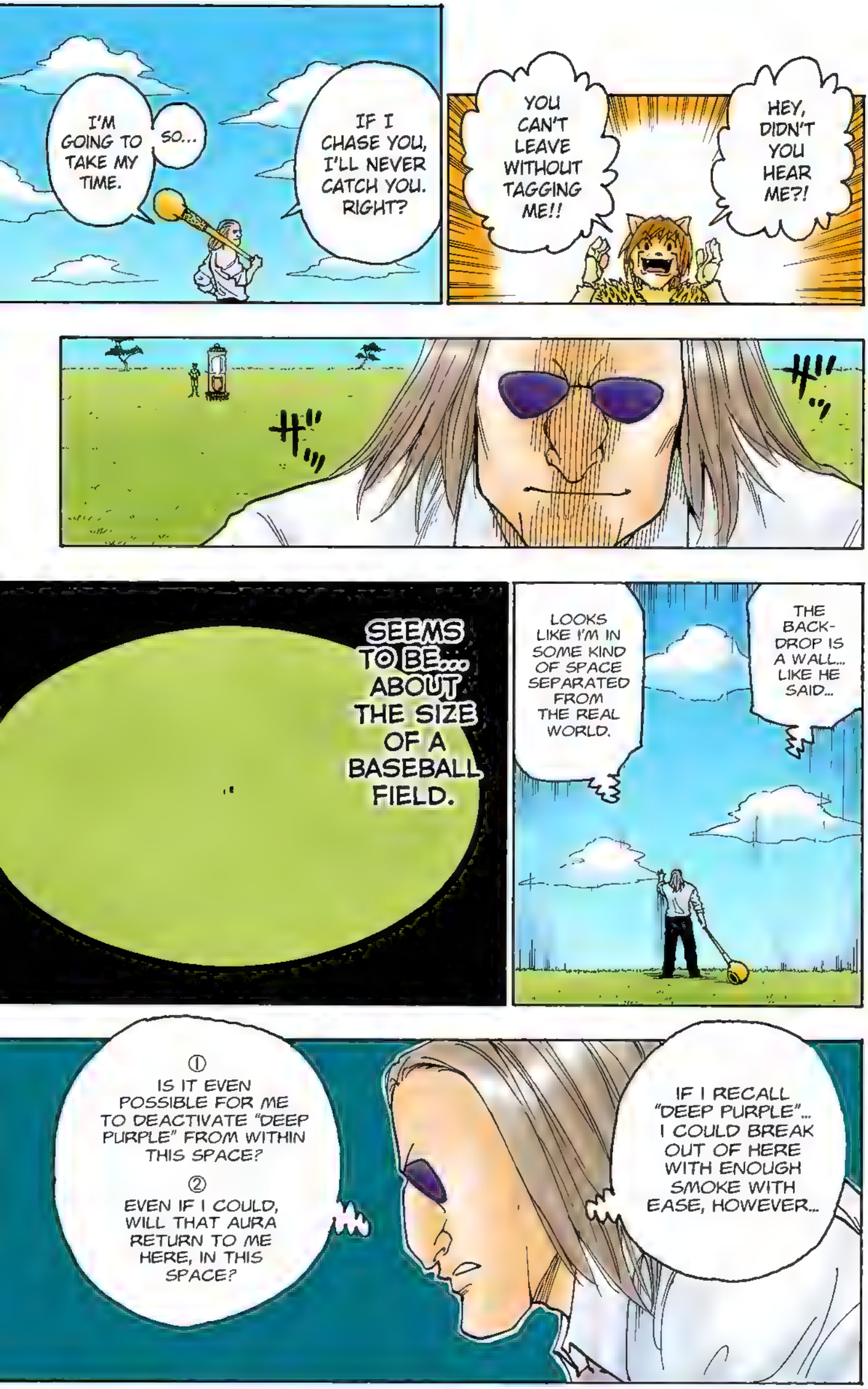
...YOU'RE IT.
NOW...


WHAT WAS THAT?
HUH?


!!!
WHERE THE HELL AM I?!
WHA-

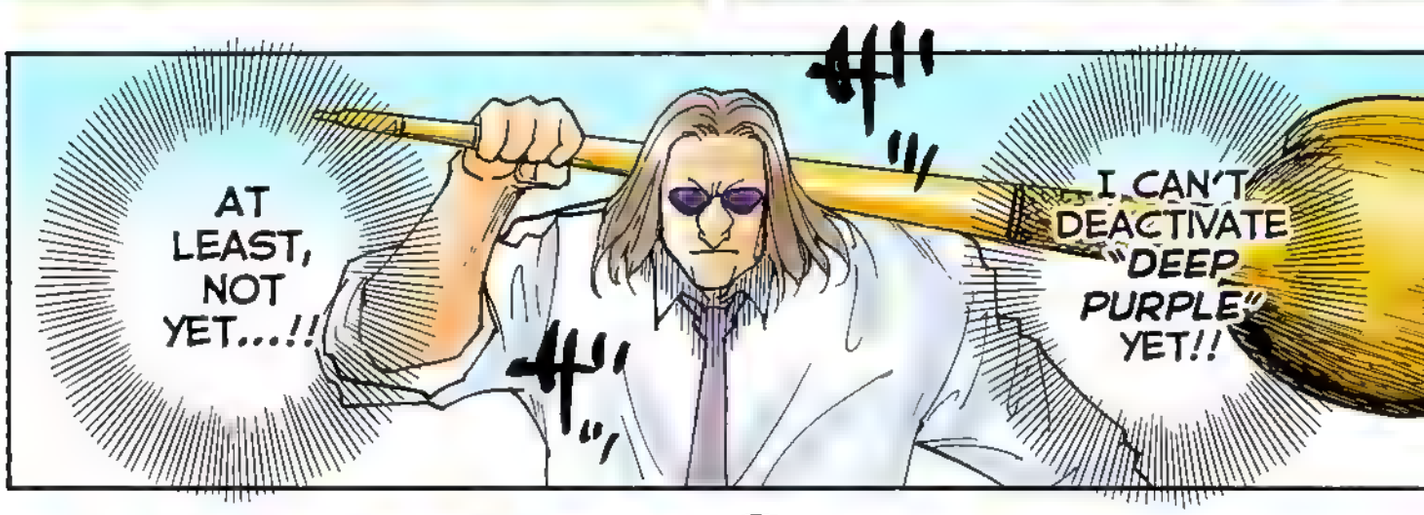

IF THIS IS HIS NEW ABILITY, A DIFFERENT CHIMERA ANT IS THE NEN EXORCIST! THIS IS BAD!!!
A SAVANNA...?! DID HE TELEPORT ME?!
...THIS GAME OF TAG.
IT'S TIME TO START ...
ARE YOU DAZED?
TAG?

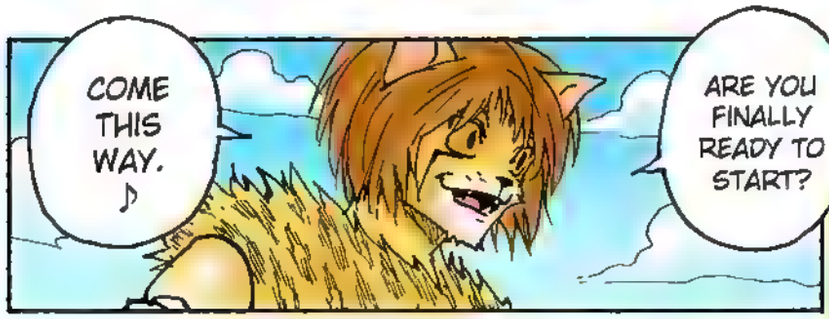

UNLESS YOU TAG ME, YOU CAN'T LEAVE.
WE'RE IN A FIELD I CREATED!!
ガコン
YOUR TIME LIMIT IS 8 HOURS!!
LET'S START!!!
?

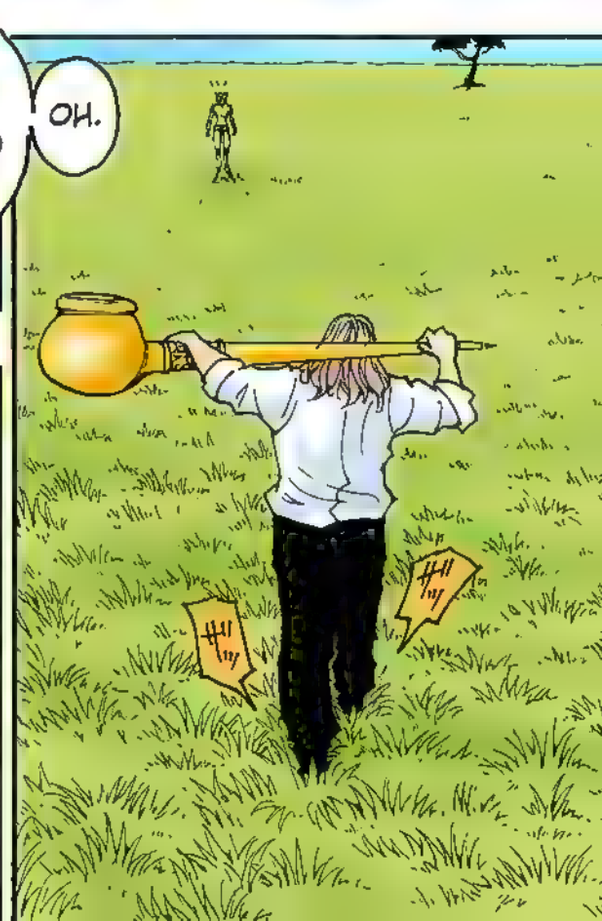

I'M GOING TO TAKE MY TIME.
SO...
IF I CHASE YOU, I'LL NEVER CATCH YOU. RIGHT?
YOU CAN'T LEAVE WITHOUT TAGGING ME!!
HEY, DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?!
SEEMS TO BE... ABOUT THE SIZE OF A BASEBALL FIELD.
LOOKS LIKE I'M IN SOME KIND OF SPACE SEPARATED FROM THE REAL WORLD.
THE BACK-DROP IS A WALL... LIKE HE SAID...
① IS IT EVEN POSSIBLE FOR ME TO DEACTIVATE "DEEP PURPLE" FROM WITHIN THIS SPACE?
② EVEN IF I COULD, WILL THAT AURA RETURN TO ME HERE, IN THIS SPACE?
IF I RECALL "DEEP PURPLE"... I COULD BREAK OUT OF HERE WITH ENOUGH SMOKE WITH EASE, HOWEVER...

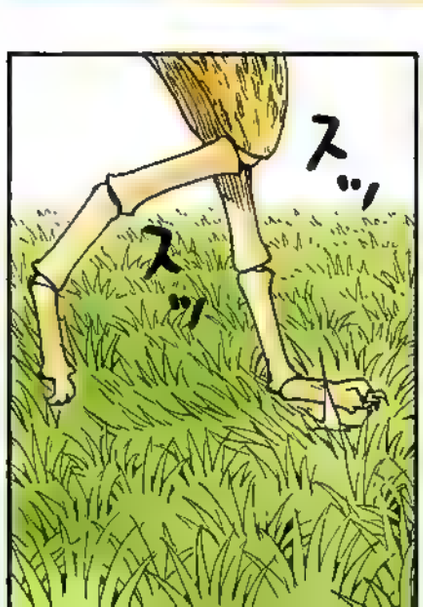
IT CAN'T BE REACTIVATED UNTIL I'VE RECOVERED MY AURA.
IT'S TOO RISKY TO TRY...!

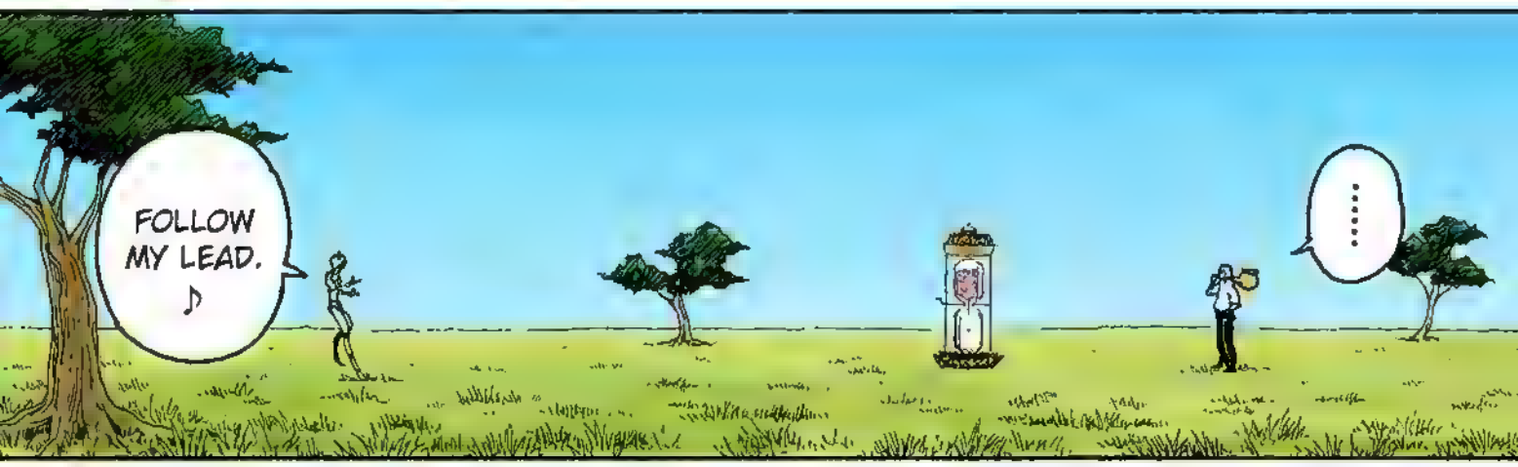
...BUT THE AURA CAN'T REACH ME IN THIS SPACE!!
THE WORST SCENARIO WOULD BE ONE IN WHICH I DEACTIVATED "DEEP PURPLE"...

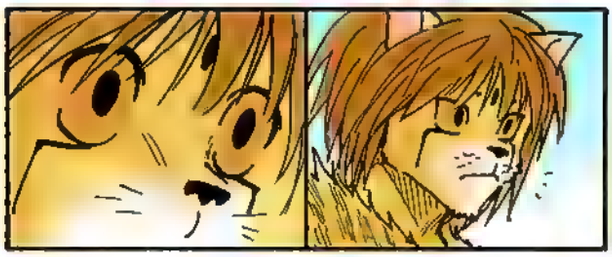

AT LEAST, NOT YET...!!
I CAN'T DEACTIVATE "DEEP PURPLE" YET!!


COME THIS WAY. ♪
ARE YOU FINALLY READY TO START?


OH.




FOLLOW MY LEAD. ♪
.....



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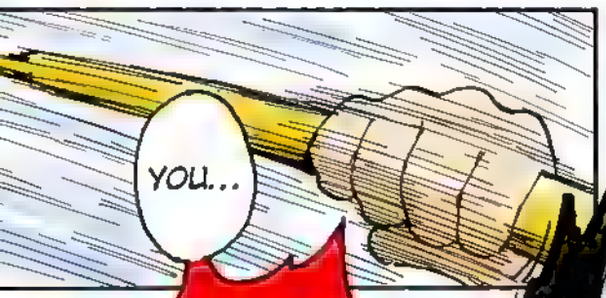
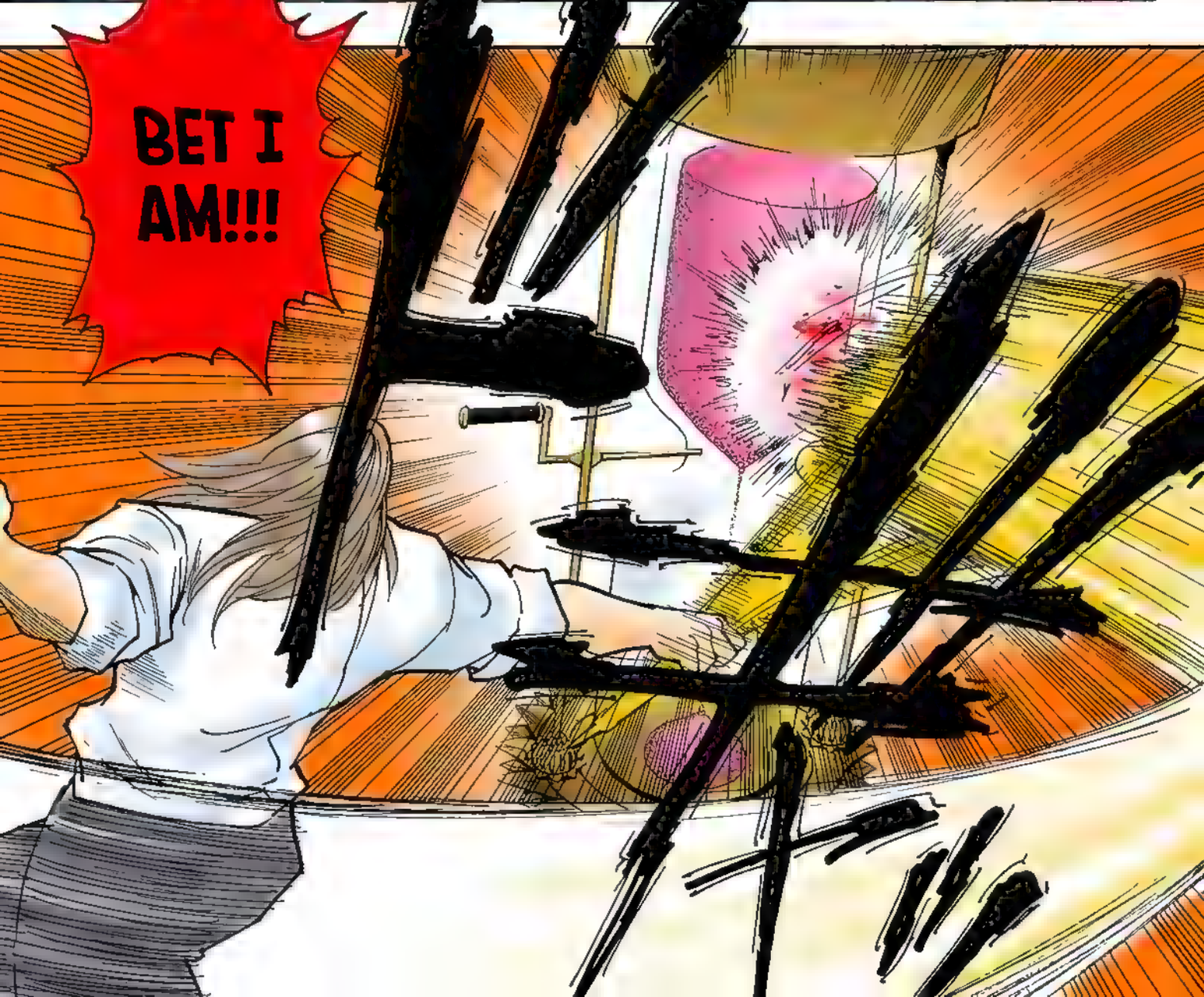
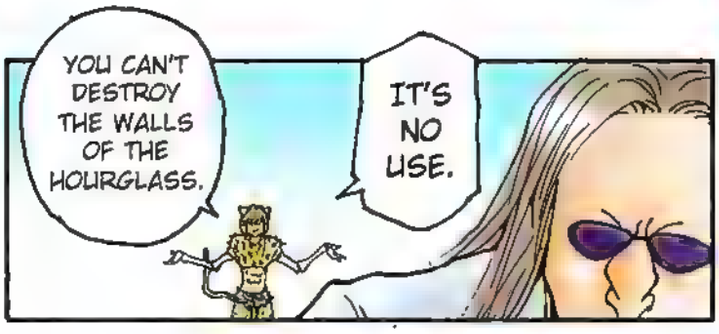
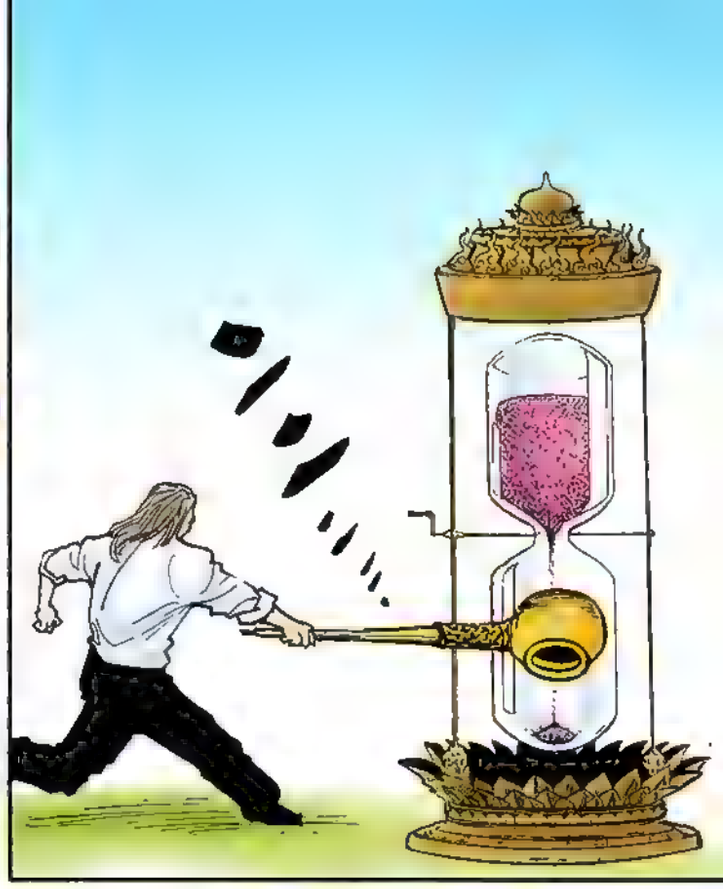
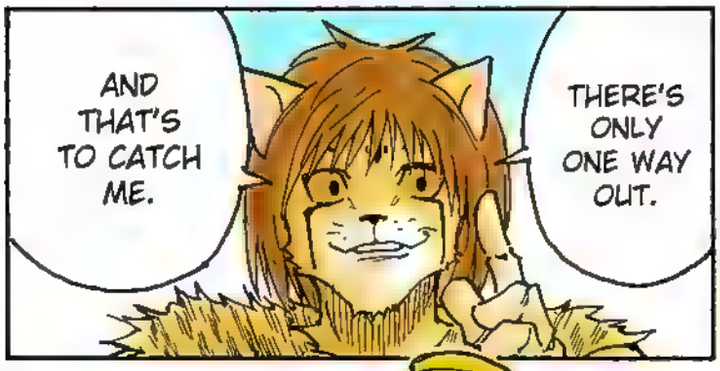

YOU...

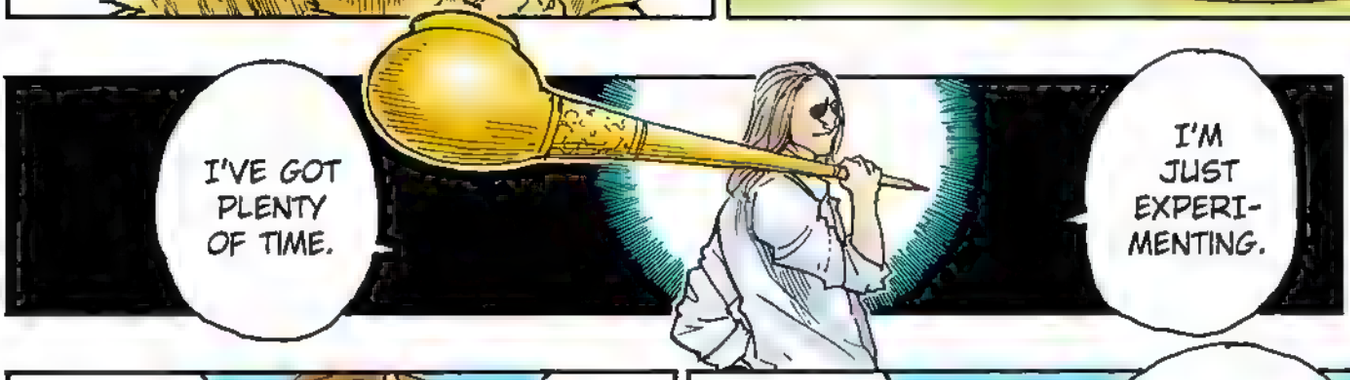
YOU'RE NOT GONNA ...
HOLD ON.

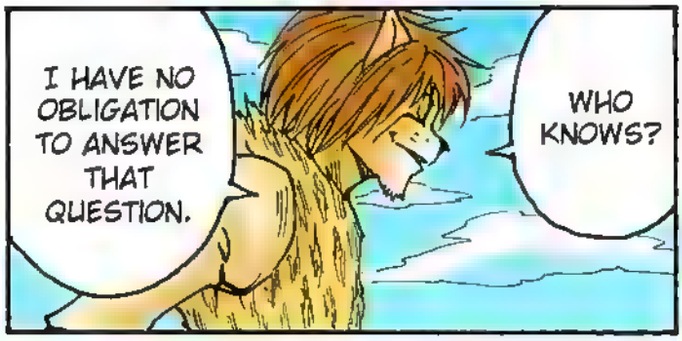

BET I AM!!!

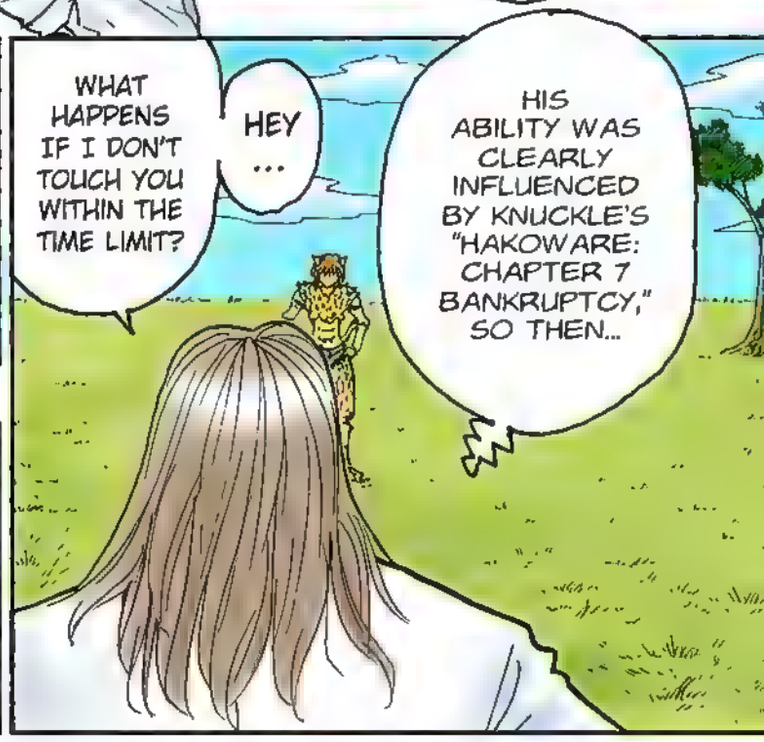

YOU CAN'T DESTROY THE WALLS OF THE HOURGLASS.
IT'S NO USE.

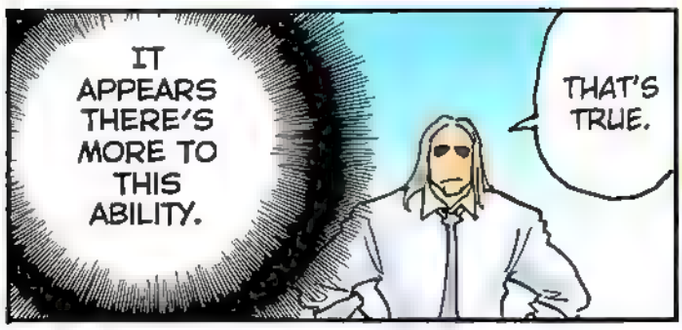



AND THAT'S TO CATCH ME.
THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OUT.


I'VE GOT PLENTY OF TIME.
I'M JUST EXPERI-MENTING.

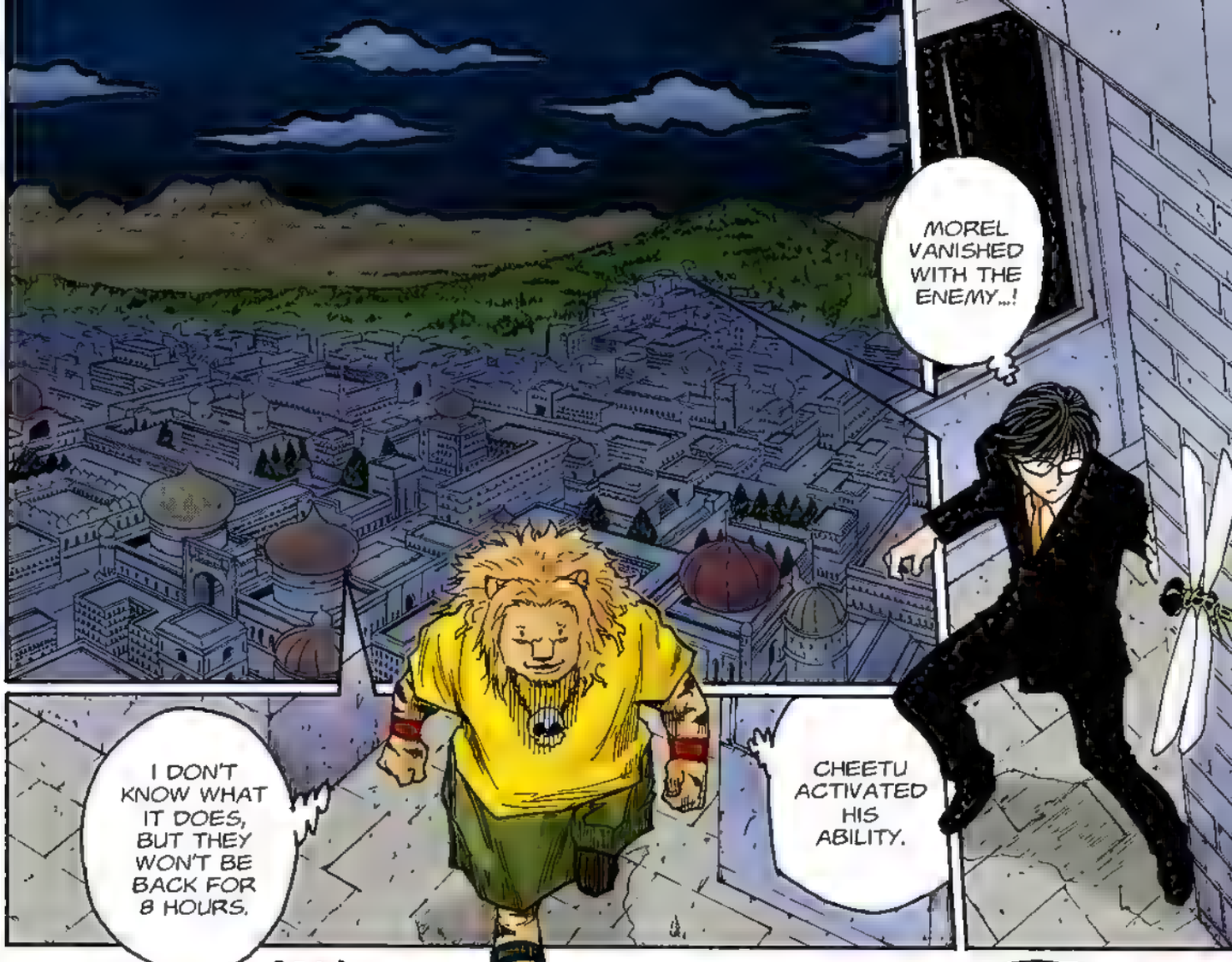

I HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION.
WHO KNOWS?

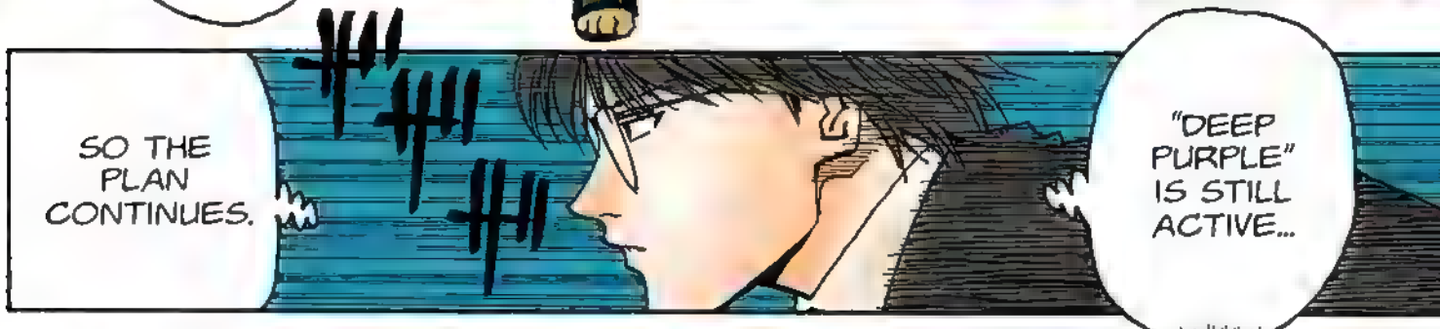

WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T TOUCH YOU WITHIN THE TIME LIMIT?
HEY ...
HIS ABILITY WAS CLEARLY INFLUENCED BY KNUCKLE'S "HAKOWARE: CHAPTER 7 BANKRUPTCY," SO THEN...

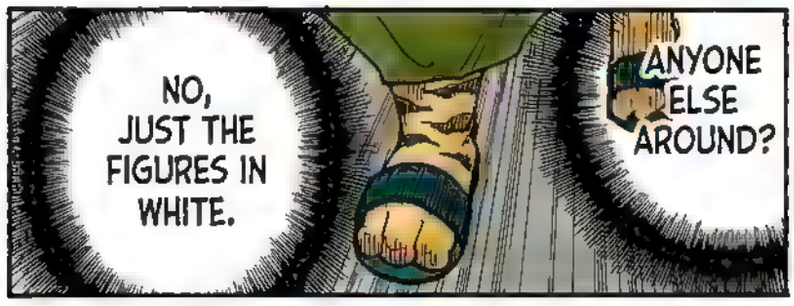

IT APPEARS THERE'S MORE TO THIS ABILITY.
THAT'S TRUE.

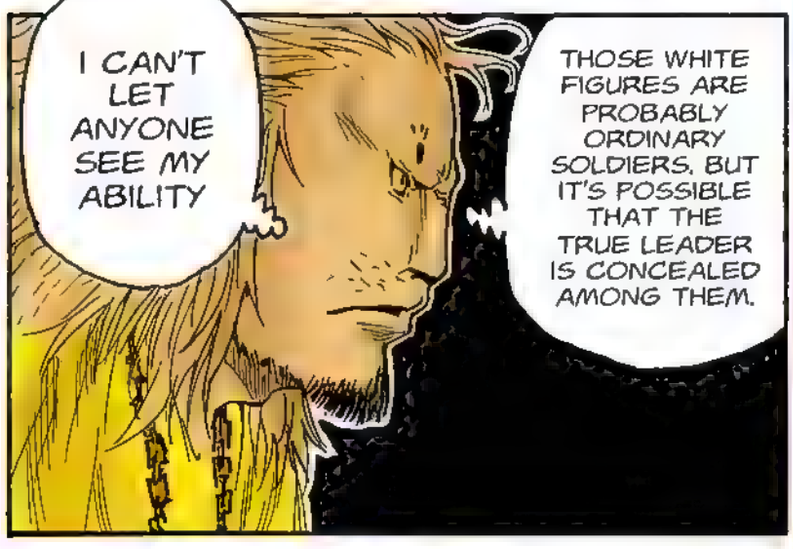
THIS WILL TAKE A WHILE.

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?
WAKE ME UP IN 5 HOURS.
SNORE...
THIS ISN'T A BATTLE OF SPEED.
IT'S A CONTEST OF WILLS!!
HEH HEH, GO AHEAD, LOSE YOUR TEMPER.
IT SEEMS... YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR OWN ABILITY.

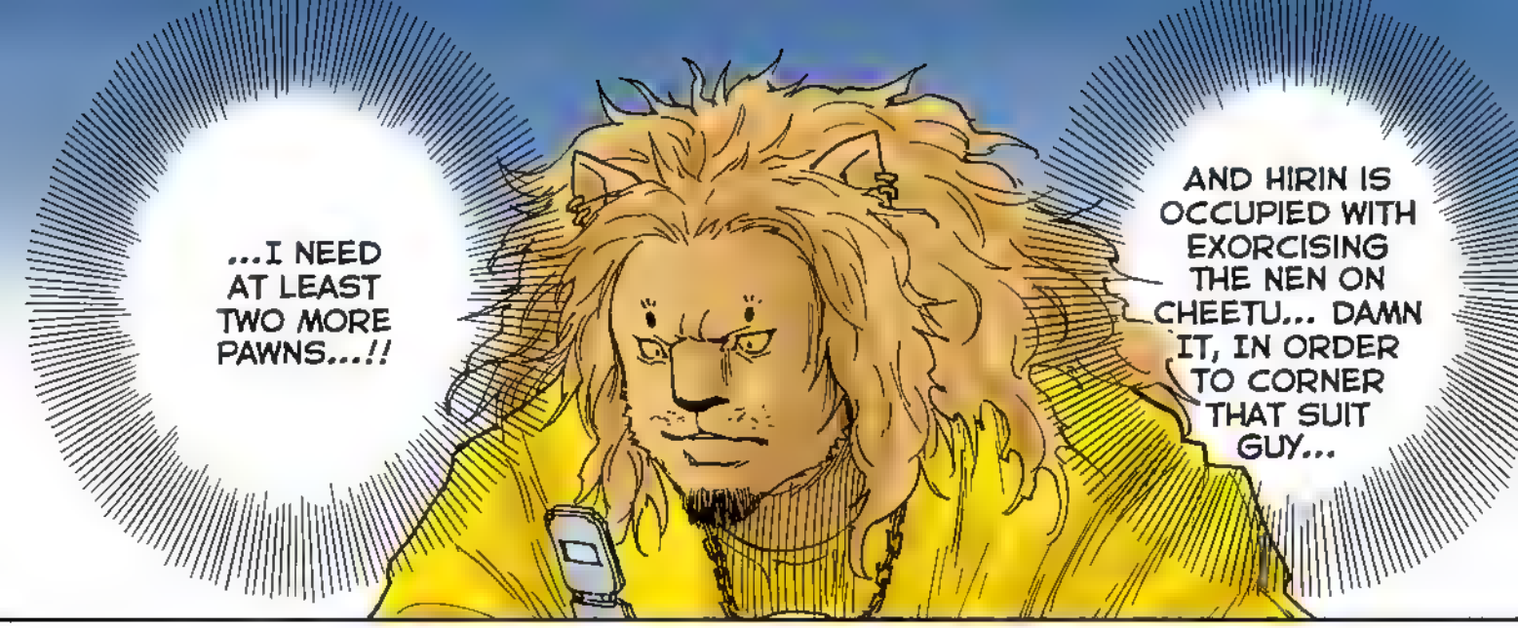

MOREL VANISHED WITH THE ENEMY...!
CHEETU ACTIVATED HIS ABILITY.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT DOES, BUT THEY WON'T BE BACK FOR 8 HOURS.


SO THE PLAN CONTINUES.
"DEEP PURPLE" IS STILL ACTIVE...


ANYONE ELSE AROUND?
NO, JUST THE FIGURES IN WHITE.

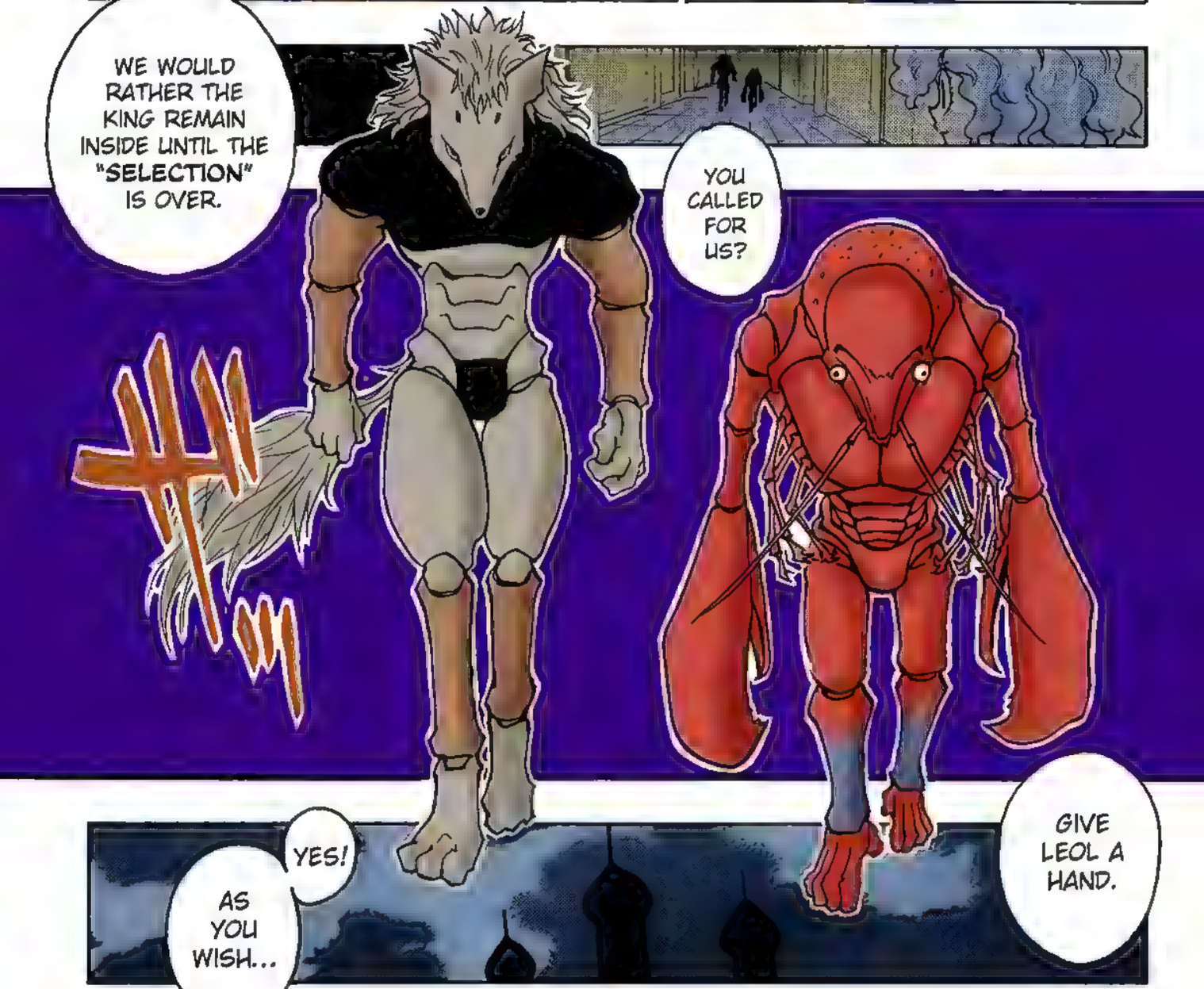

I CAN'T LET ANYONE SEE MY ABILITY
THOSE WHITE FIGURES ARE PROBABLY ORDINARY SOLDIERS, BUT IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE TRUE LEADER IS CONCEALED AMONG THEM.

SIR LEOL, I'VE DISCOVERED ANOTHER ENEMY.
IT'S A MAN IN A SUIT, WITH BLACK HAIR AND GLASSES.

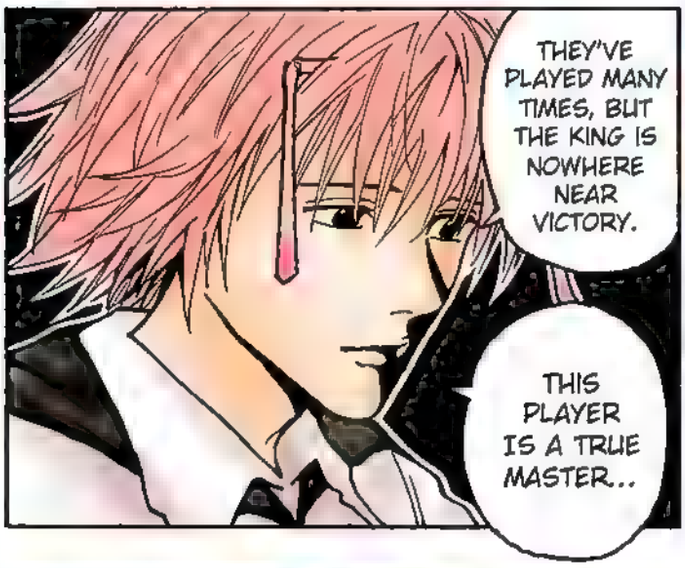

...I NEED AT LEAST TWO MORE PAWNS...!!
AND HIRIN IS OCCUPIED WITH EXORCISING THE NEN ON CHEETU... DAMN IT, IN ORDER TO CORNER THAT SUIT GUY...

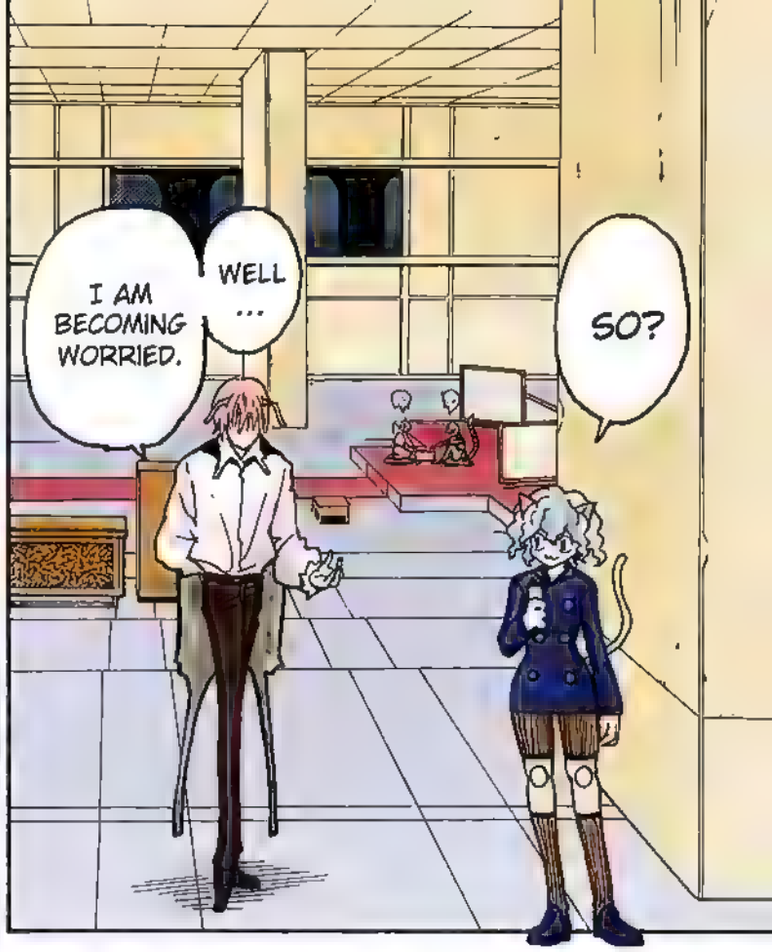
WE WILL BE THERE TO GUARD HIM, BUT YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN.
AFTER THAT, THE KING HIMSELF MIGHT COME OUT TO PLAY.

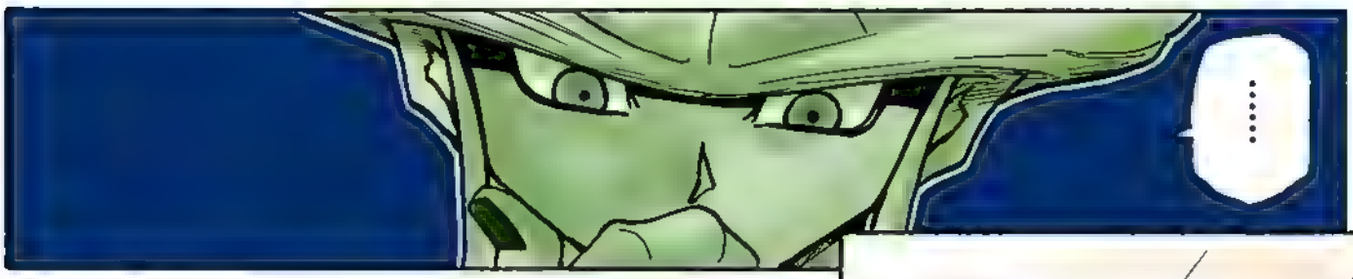
THE KING IS NEARLY DONE PLAYING HIS GAME.
OKAY, BUT IN RETURN, YOU HAVE TO DEFEAT HIM.


WE WOULD RATHER THE KING REMAIN INSIDE UNTIL THE "SELECTION" IS OVER.
YOU CALLED FOR US?
YES!
AS YOU WISH...
GIVE LEOL A HAND.

?


THEY'VE PLAYED MANY TIMES, BUT THE KING IS NOWHERE NEAR VICTORY.
THIS PLAYER IS A TRUE MASTER...


I AM BECOMING WORRIED.
WELL ...
SO?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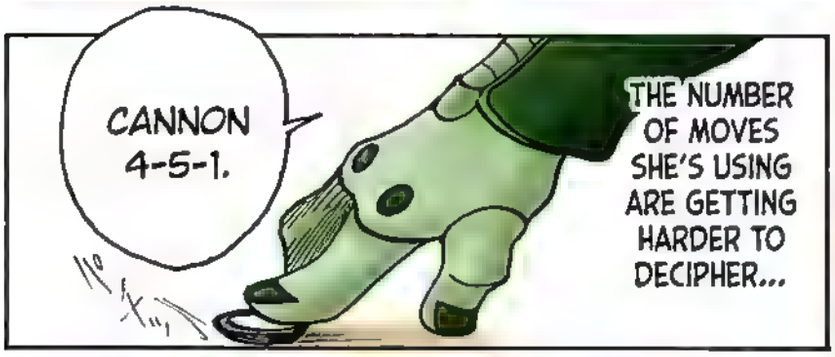
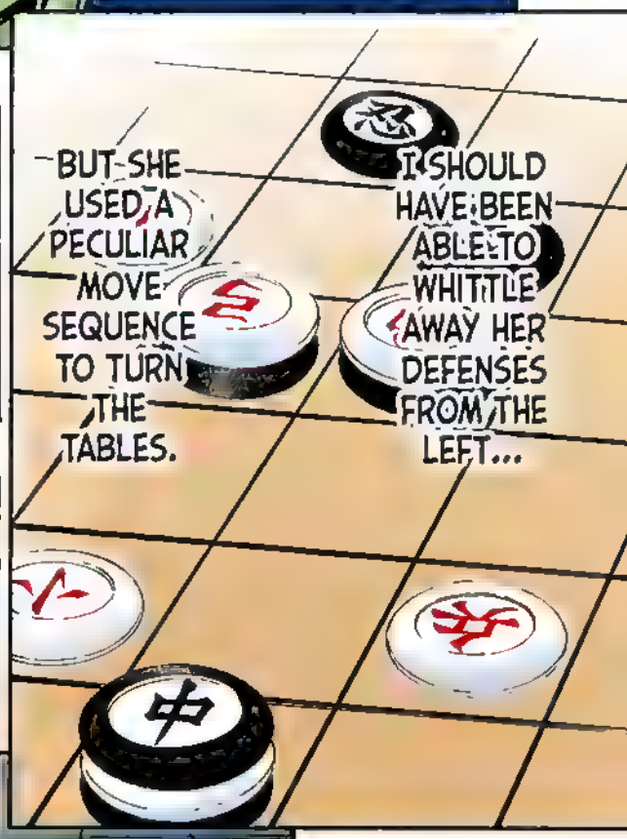
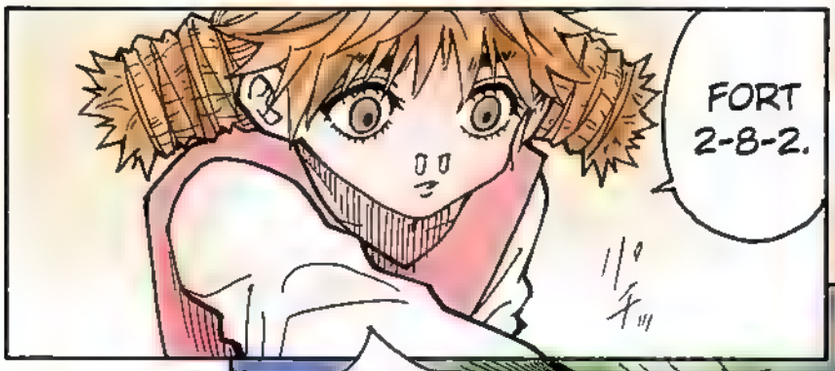
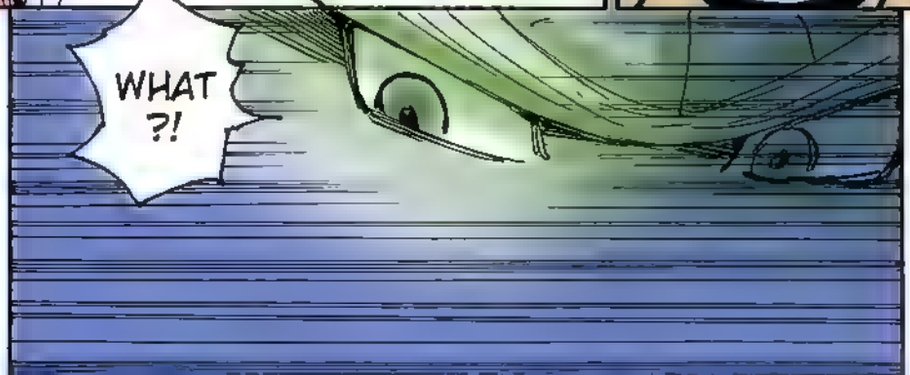

CANNON 4-5-1.
THE NUMBER OF MOVES SHE'S USING ARE GETTING HARDER TO DECIPHER...


BUT SHE USED A PECULIAR MOVE SEQUENCE TO TURN THE TABLES.
I SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO WHITTLE AWAY HER DEFENSES FROM THE LEFT...


FORT 2-8-2.


WHAT ?!

BUT THAT SINGLE MOVE GAVE IT TOTAL CONTROL OF THE BOARD...!!

THE SHINOBI WASN'T OF ANY USE SINCE ITS OPENING PLACEMENT...

THIS OUTCOME COULD HAVE ONLY HAPPENED IF SHE PREDICTED MY GAME FROM THE VERY BEGINNING...!!

IMPOSSIBLE!! FROM START TO CHECKMATE, THERE WERE 144 MOVES!

I HAVE NOTHING. I RESIGN.

MY RIGHT SIDE'S BEEN NEUTRALIZED!

WAS THIS MOVE PLANNED FROM THE VERY START...?!

YES!

...!!IMPOSSIBLE!!

THIS IS UTTERLY...

ON TO THE NEXT GAME!

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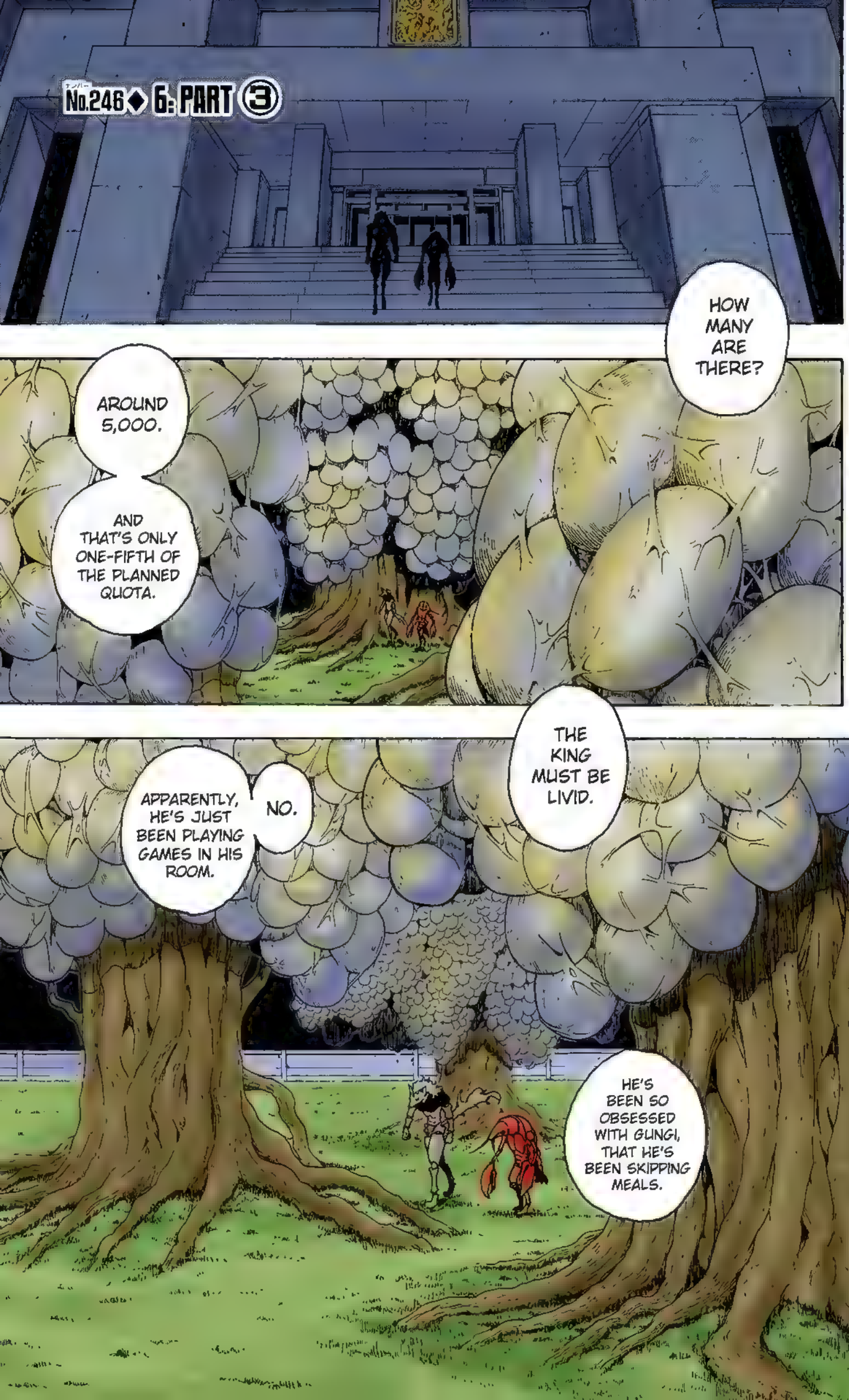
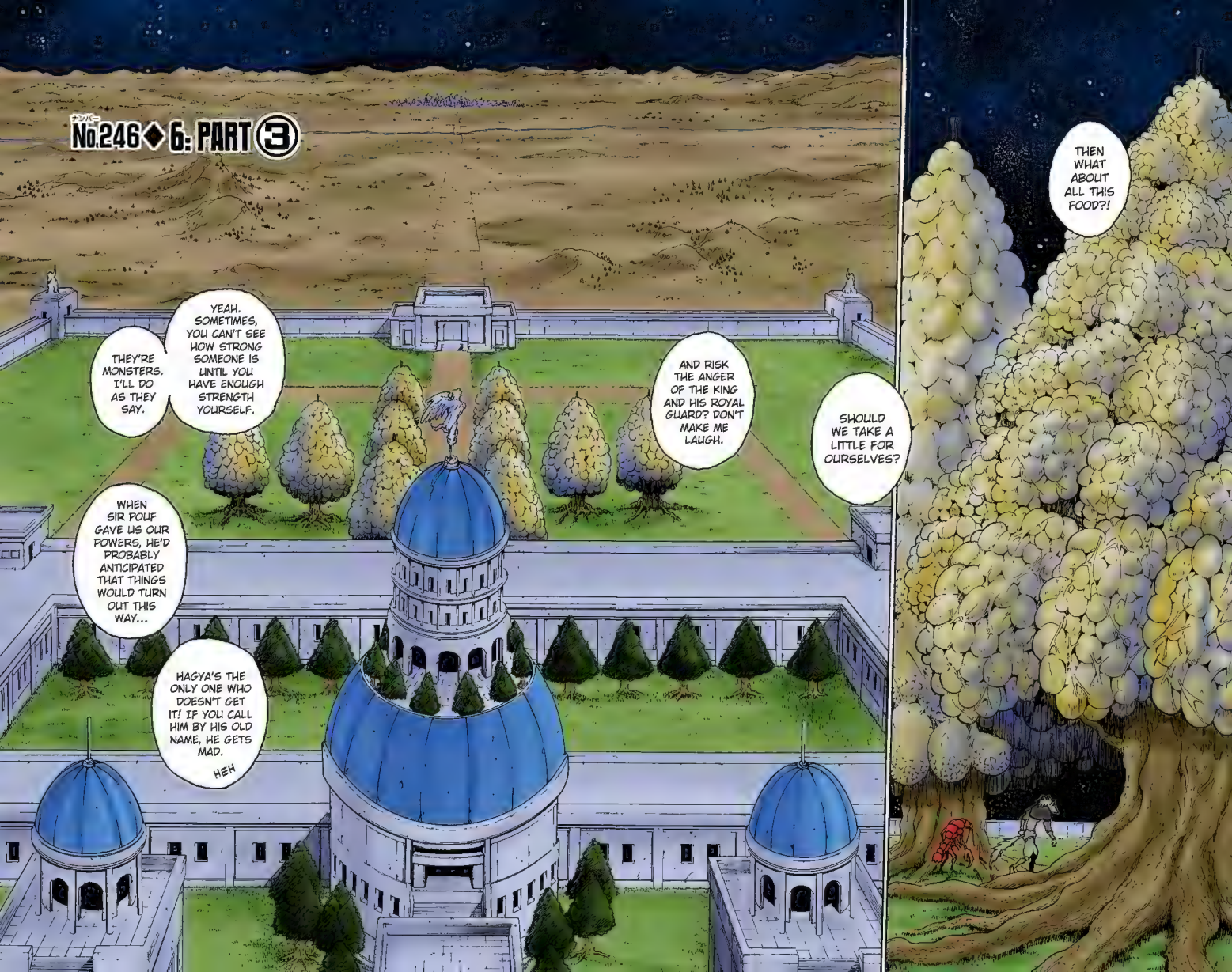
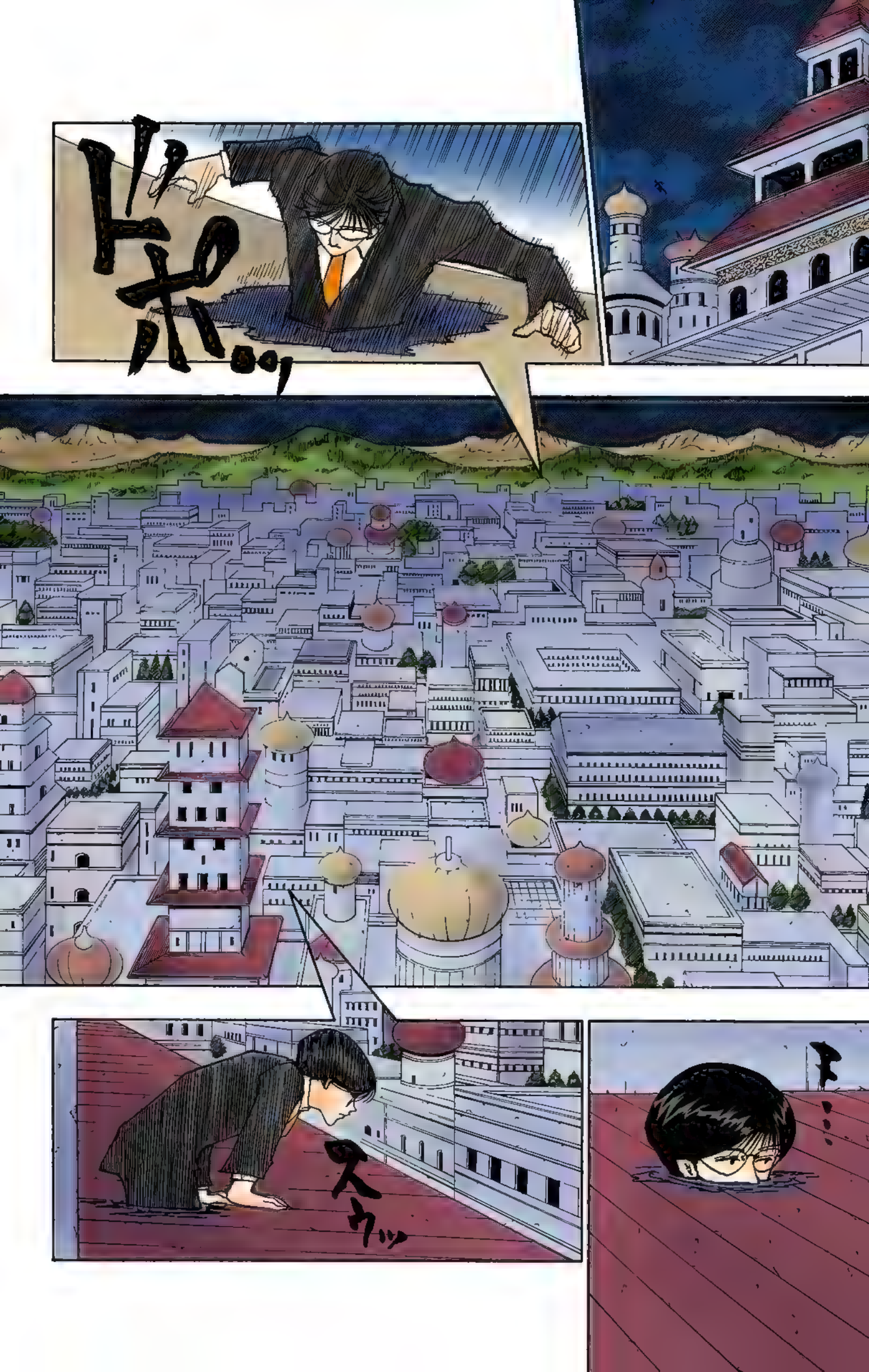
THERE'S A STORM BREWING.


No.246◆6: PART ③
HOW MANY ARE THERE?
AROUND 5,000.
AND THAT'S ONLY ONE-FIFTH OF THE PLANNED QUOTA.
THE KING MUST BE LIVID.
NO.
APPARENTLY, HE'S JUST BEEN PLAYING GAMES IN HIS ROOM.
HE'S BEEN SO OBSESSED WITH GUNGI, THAT HE'S BEEN SKIPPING MEALS.


No.246◆6: PART③
THEY'RE MONSTERS. I'LL DO AS THEY SAY.
YEAH. SOMETIMES, YOU CAN'T SEE HOW STRONG SOMEONE IS UNTIL YOU HAVE ENOUGH STRENGTH YOURSELF.
WHEN SIR POUF GAVE US OUR POWERS, HE'D PROBABLY ANTICIPATED THAT THINGS WOULD TURN OUT THIS WAY...
HAGYA'S THE ONLY ONE WHO DOESN'T GET IT! IF YOU CALL HIM BY HIS OLD NAME, HE GETS MAD.
HEH
AND RISK THE ANGER OF THE KING AND HIS ROYAL GUARD? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
SHOULD WE TAKE A LITTLE FOR OURSELVES?
THEN WHAT ABOUT ALL THIS FOOD?!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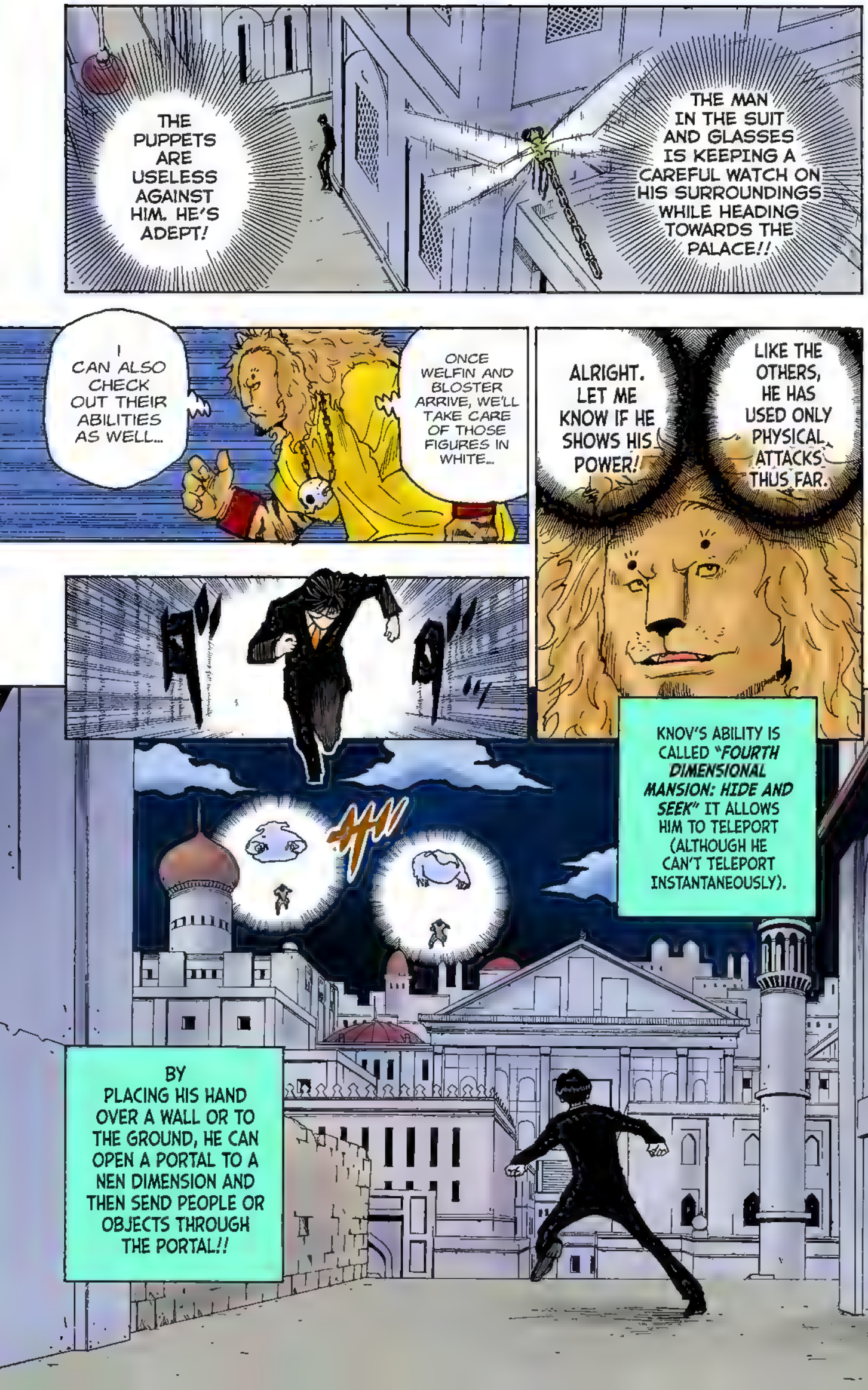
THE PUPPETS ARE USELESS AGAINST HIM. HE'S ADEPT!
THE MAN IN THE SUIT AND GLASSES IS KEEPING A CAREFUL WATCH ON HIS SURROUNDINGS WHILE HEADING TOWARDS THE PALACE!!
I CAN ALSO CHECK OUT THEIR ABILITIES AS WELL...
ONCE WELFIN AND BLOSTER ARRIVE, WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THOSE FIGURES IN WHITE...
ALRIGHT. LET ME KNOW IF HE SHOWS HIS POWER!
LIKE THE OTHERS, HE HAS USED ONLY PHYSICAL ATTACKS THUS FAR.
KNOV'S ABILITY IS CALLED "*FOURTH DIMENSIONAL MANSION: HIDE AND SEEK*" IT ALLOWS HIM TO TELEPORT (ALTHOUGH HE CAN'T TELEPORT INSTANTANEOUSLY).
BY PLACING HIS HAND OVER A WALL OR TO THE GROUND, HE CAN OPEN A PORTAL TO A NEN DIMENSION AND THEN SEND PEOPLE OR OBJECTS THROUGH THE PORTAL!!

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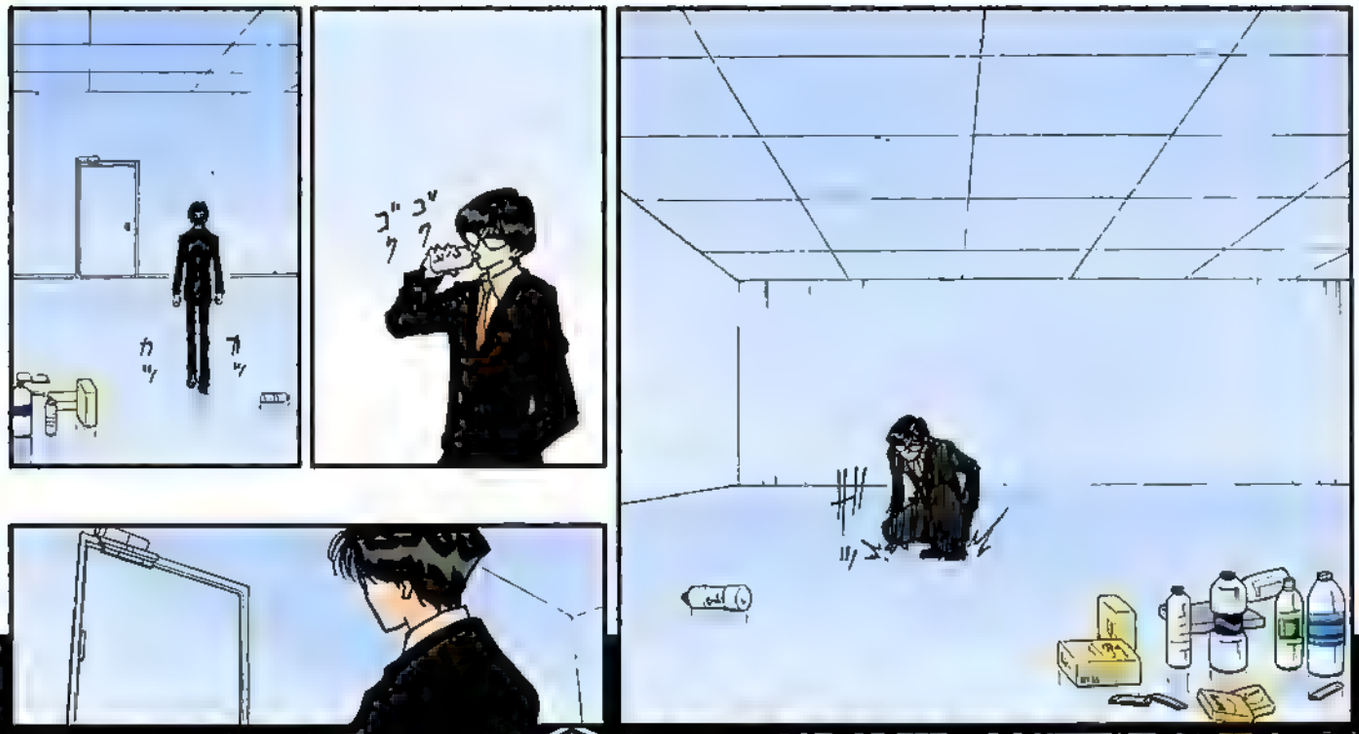
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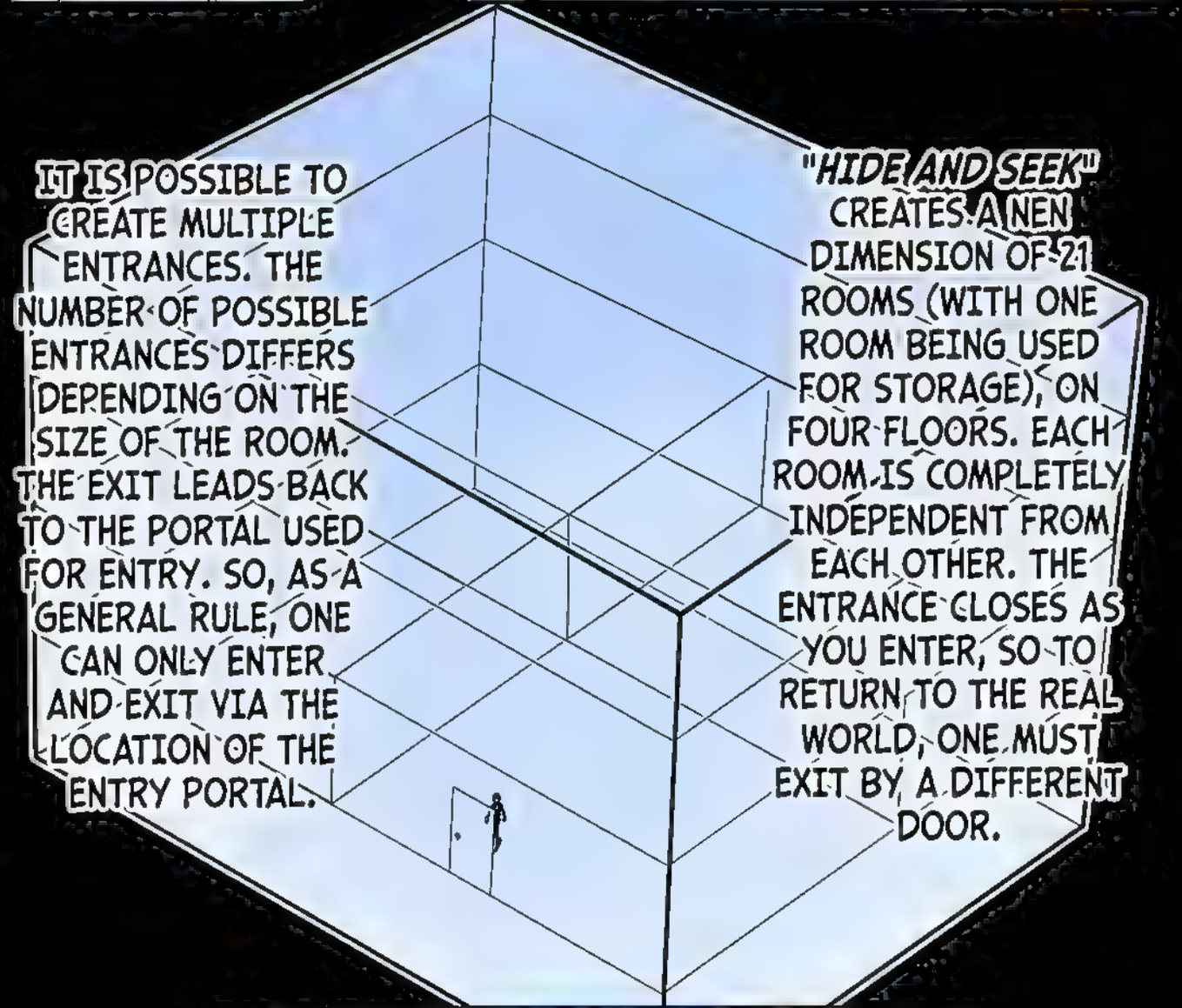
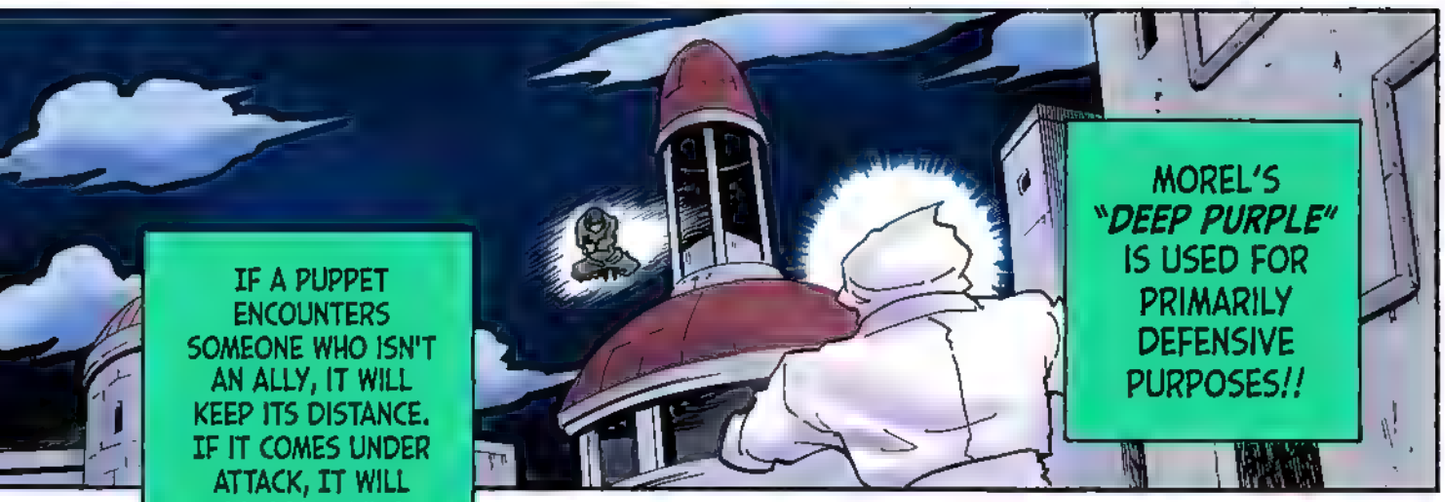
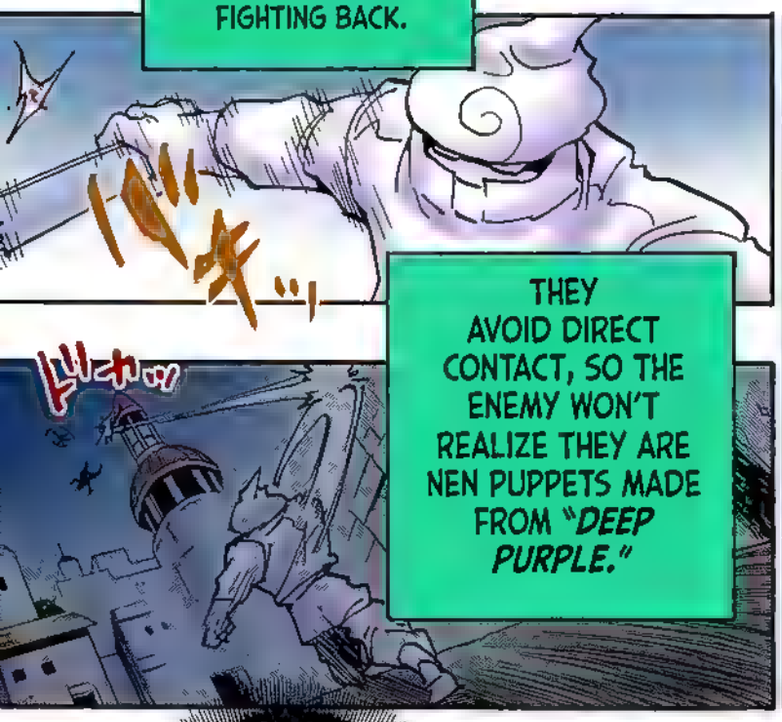
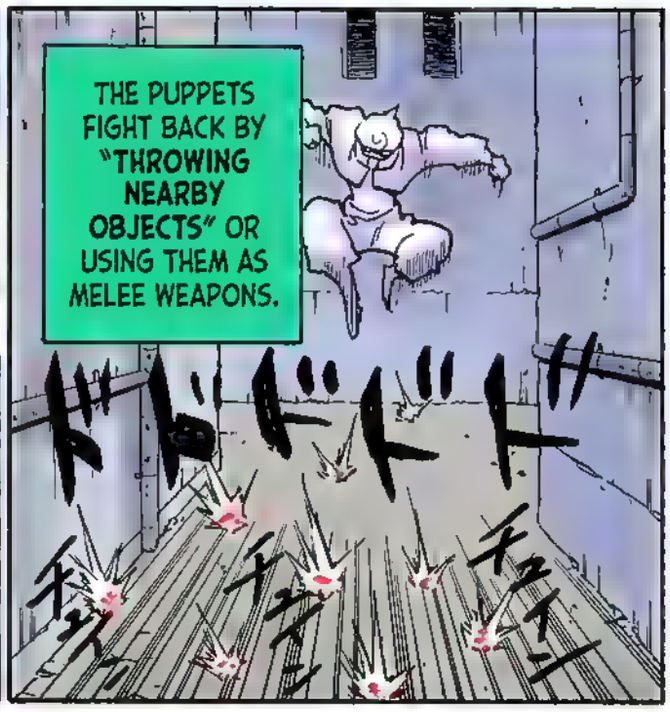

IT IS POSSIBLE TO CREATE MULTIPLE ENTRANCES. THE NUMBER OF POSSIBLE ENTRANCES DIFFERS DEPENDING ON THE SIZE OF THE ROOM. THE EXIT LEADS BACK TO THE PORTAL USED FOR ENTRY. SO, AS A GENERAL RULE, ONE CAN ONLY ENTER AND EXIT VIA THE LOCATION OF THE ENTRY PORTAL.
"HIDE AND SEEK" CREATES A NEN DIMENSION OF 21 ROOMS (WITH ONE ROOM BEING USED FOR STORAGE), ON FOUR FLOORS. EACH ROOM IS COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT FROM EACH OTHER. THE ENTRANCE CLOSES AS YOU ENTER, SO TO RETURN TO THE REAL WORLD, ONE MUST EXIT BY A DIFFERENT DOOR.

HOWEVER...

...CAN CONNECT THE DOOR TO ANY PORTAL IN ANY LOCATION!!
THE MASTER KEY HELD BY KNOV...
NO CHANGE.
STILL QUIET ON THE BATTLE-FRONT.

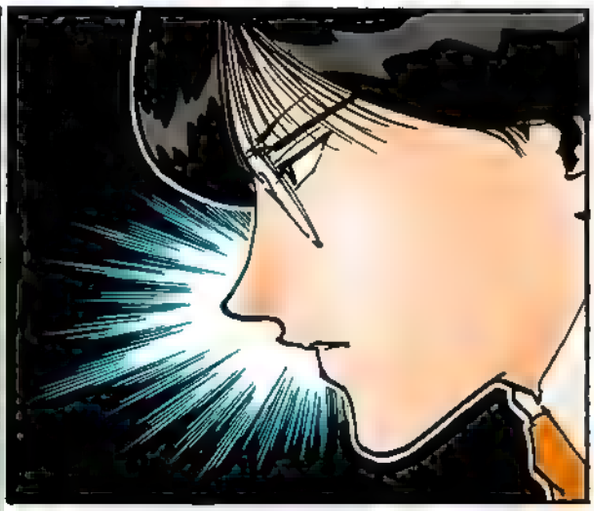

IF A PUPPET ENCOUNTERS SOMEONE WHO ISN'T AN ALLY, IT WILL KEEP ITS DISTANCE. IF IT COMES UNDER ATTACK, IT WILL RETREAT WHILE FIGHTING BACK.
MOREL'S "DEEP PURPLE" IS USED FOR PRIMARILY DEFENSIVE PURPOSES!!


THEY AVOID DIRECT CONTACT, SO THE ENEMY WON'T REALIZE THEY ARE NEN PUPPETS MADE FROM "DEEP PURPLE."

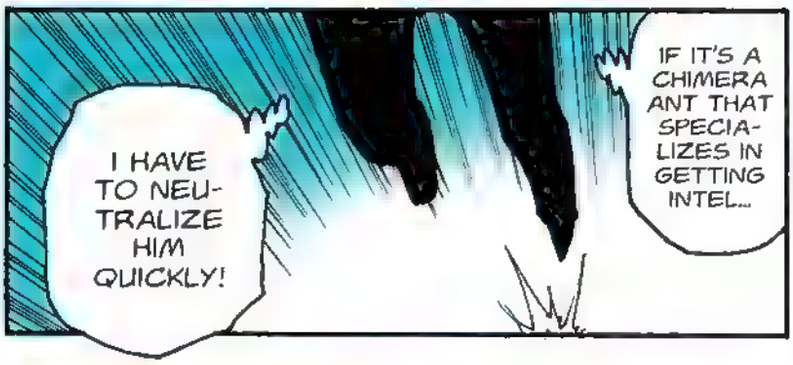

THE PUPPETS FIGHT BACK BY "THROWING NEARBY OBJECTS" OR USING THEM AS MELEE WEAPONS.

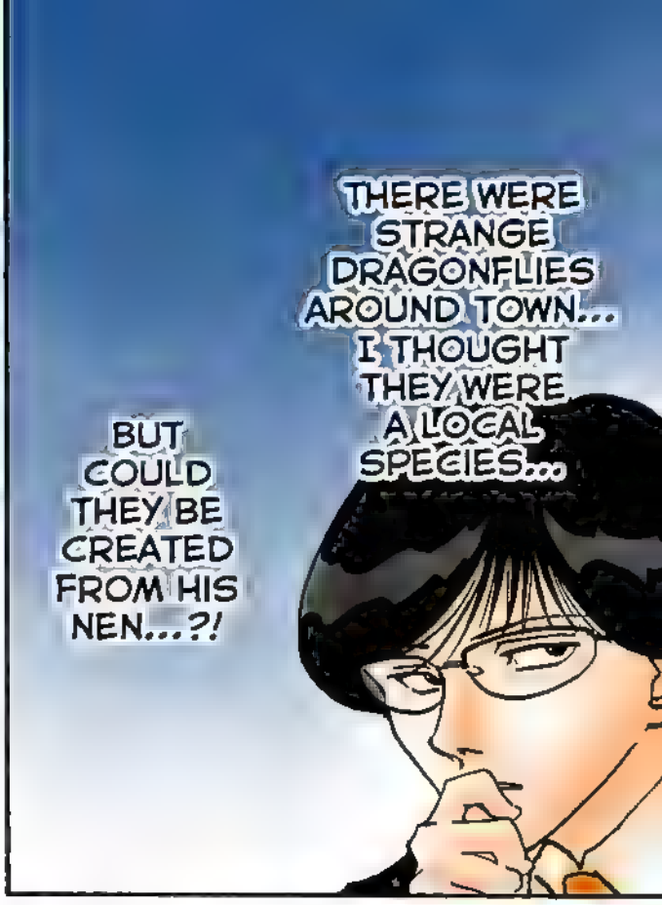
SIR LEOL! IT APPEARS THAT THE SUIT WITH GLASSES IS ABLE TO TELEPORT.
DAMN IT, I LOST SIGHT OF HIM!

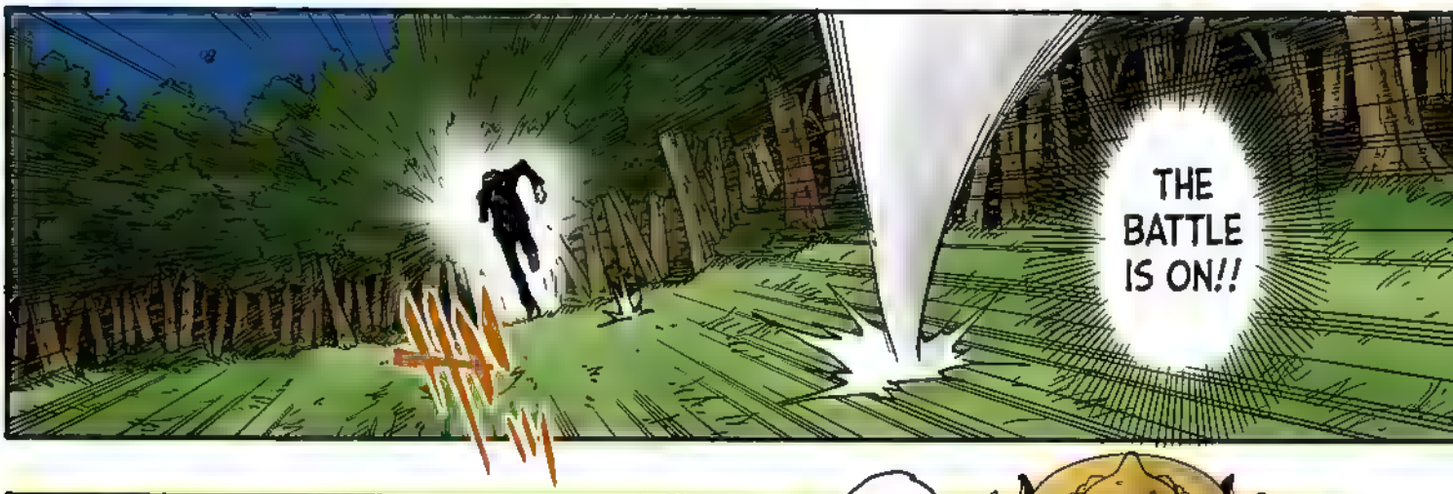
WE'RE PRETTY FAR FROM THE BATTLEFIELD. IS IT SCOUTING THE AREA...?
WHAT'S IT DOING ...?
THAT'S A... CHIMERA ...!!

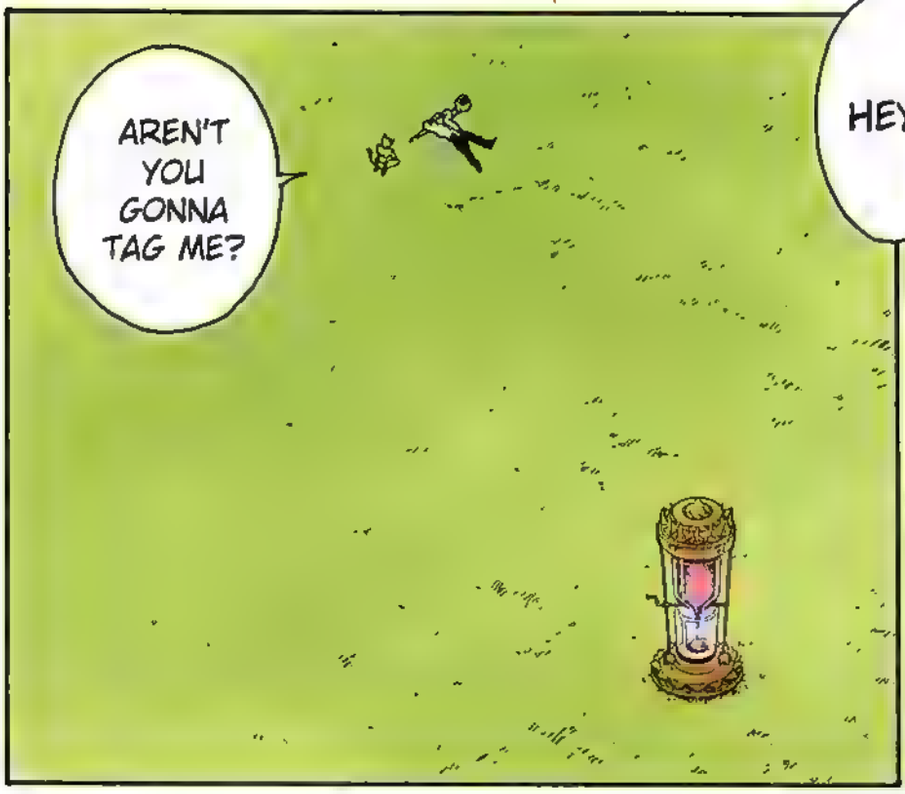


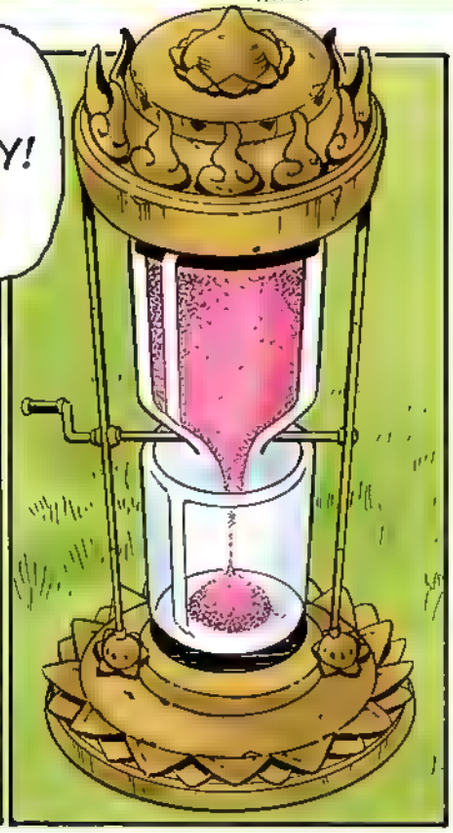
IT'S VERY LIKELY!
.....

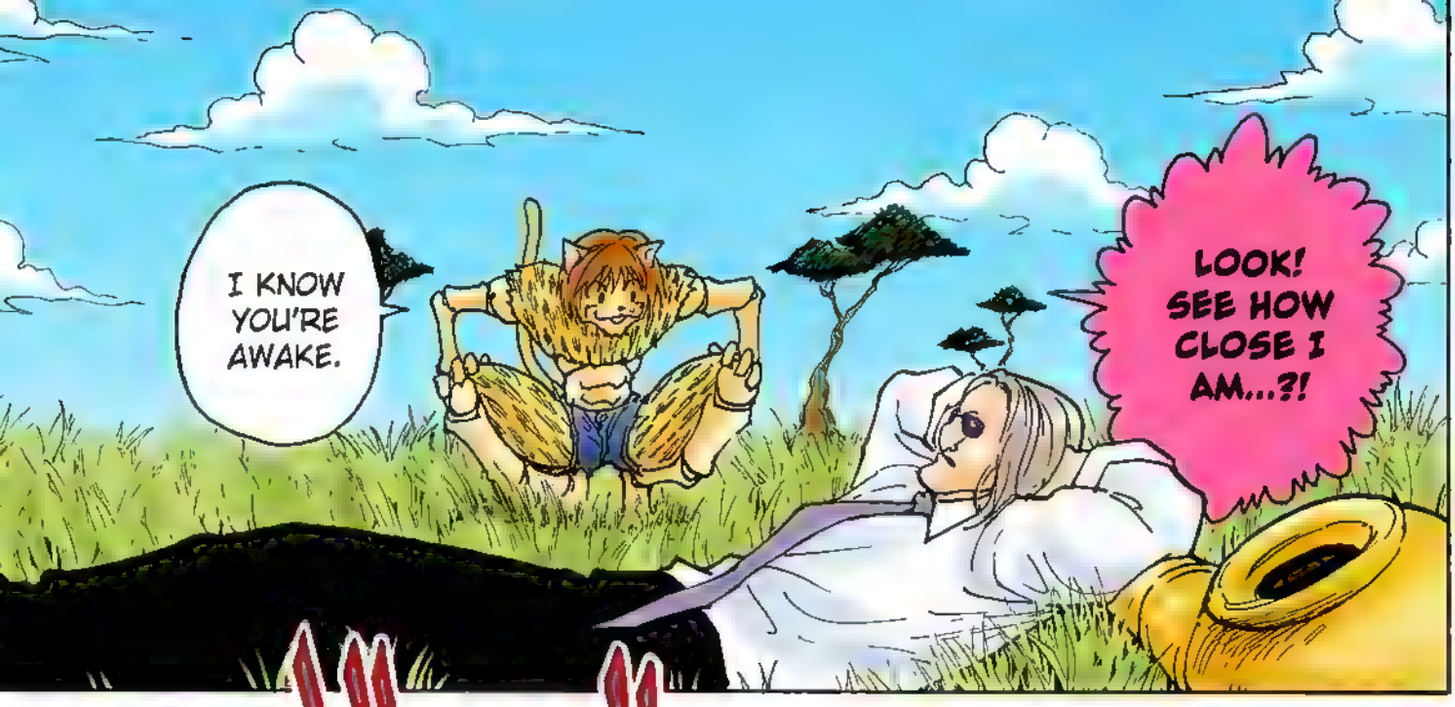

I HAVE TO NEUTRALIZE HIM QUICKLY!
IF IT'S A CHIMERA ANT THAT SPECIALIZES IN GETTING INTEL...

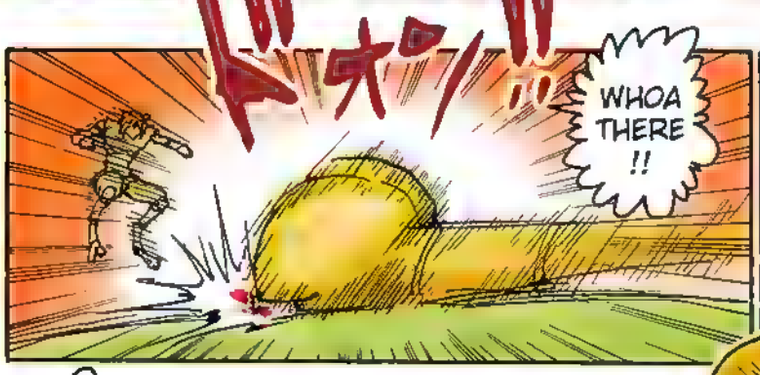

THERE WERE STRANGE DRAGONFLIES AROUND TOWN... I THOUGHT THEY WERE A LOCAL SPECIES...
BUT COULD THEY BE CREATED FROM HIS NEN...?!


THE BATTLE IS ON!!


AREN'T YOU GONNA TAG ME?


HEY!


I KNOW YOU'RE AWAKE.
LOOK! SEE HOW CLOSE I AM...?!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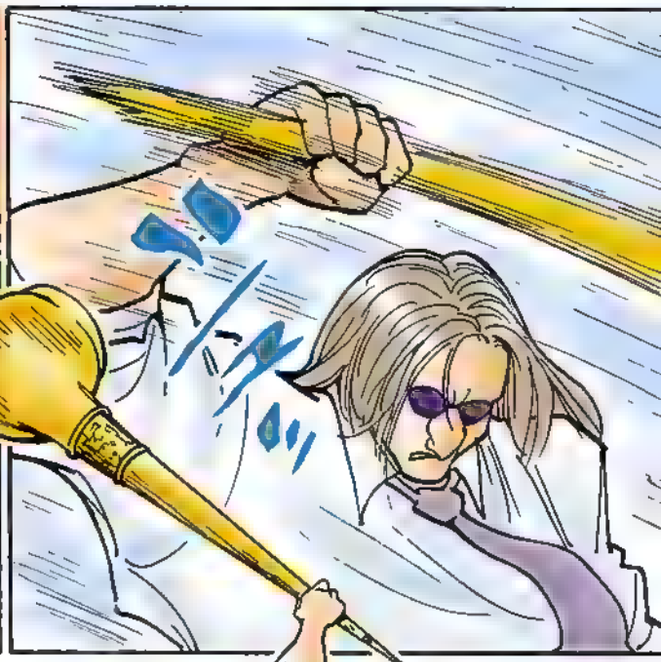
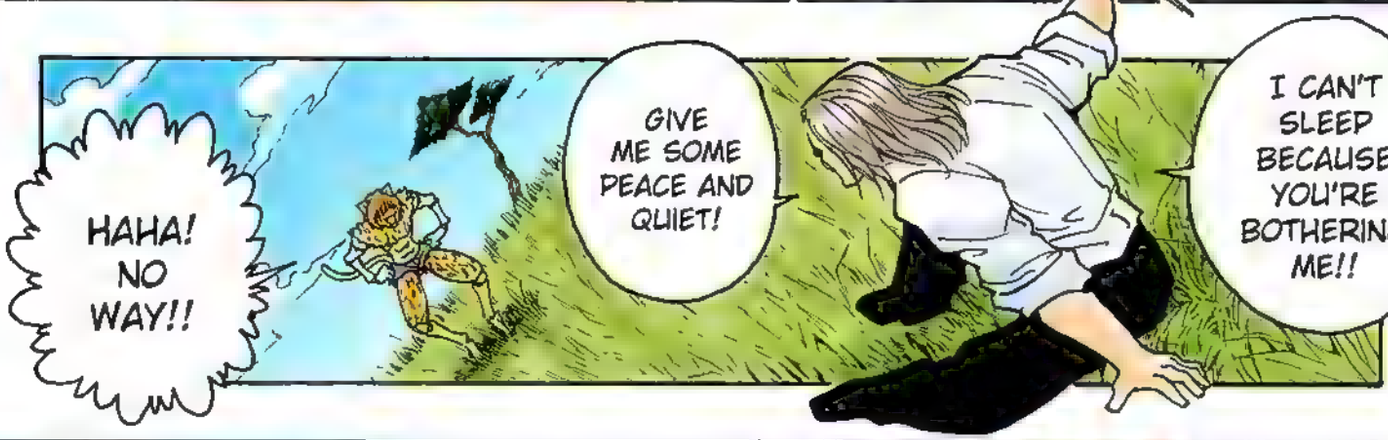
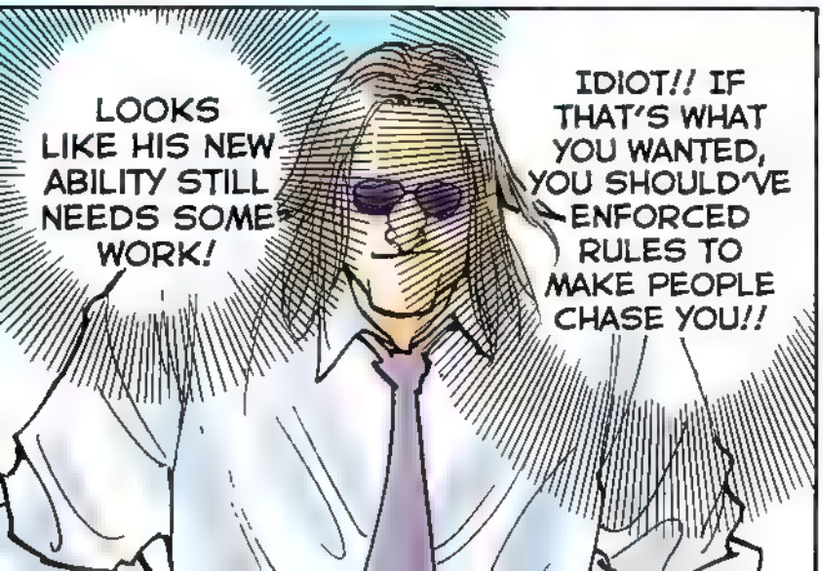
WHOA THERE !!

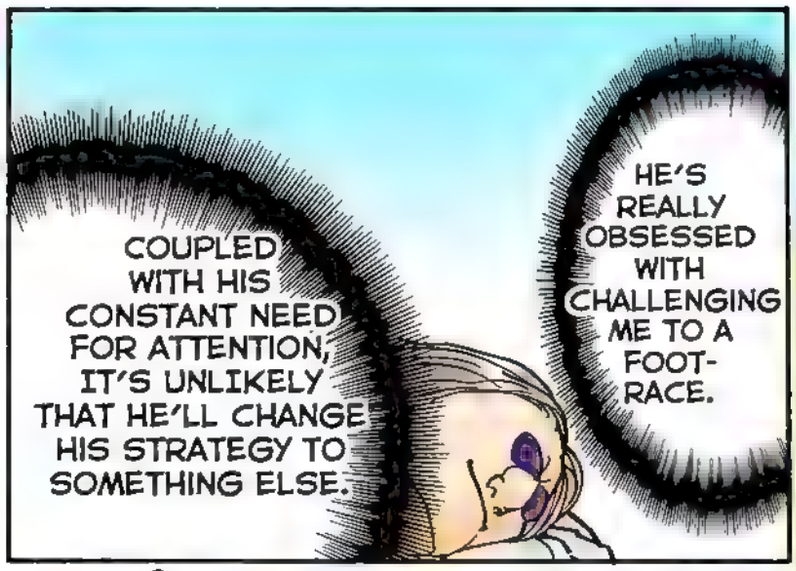


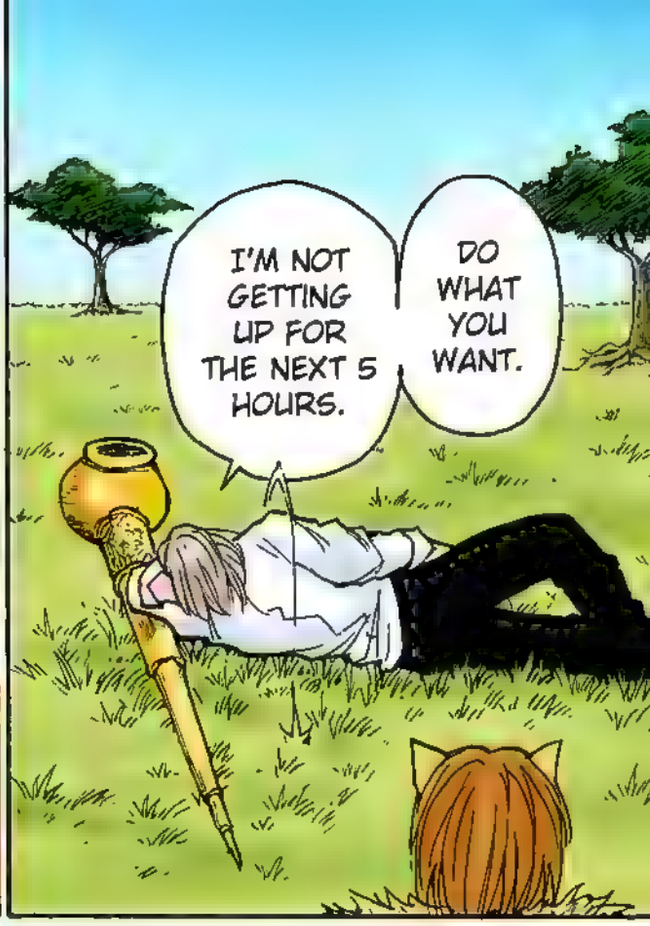
YOU CAN'T TRICK ME!!
I KNEW YOU WERE PLAYING POSSUM!!

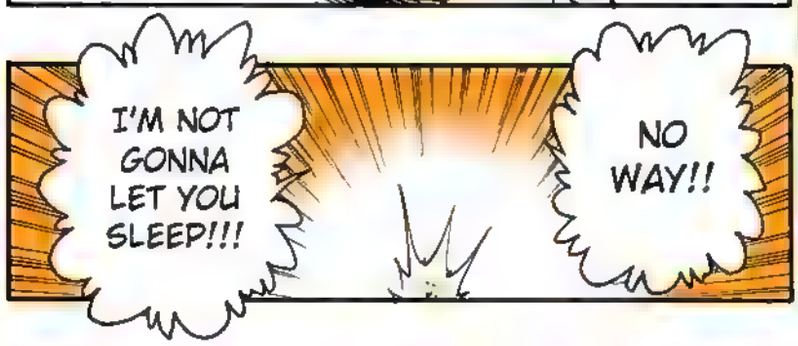

HAHA! NO WAY!!
GIVE ME SOME PEACE AND QUIET!
I CAN'T SLEEP BECAUSE YOU'RE BOTHERING ME!!

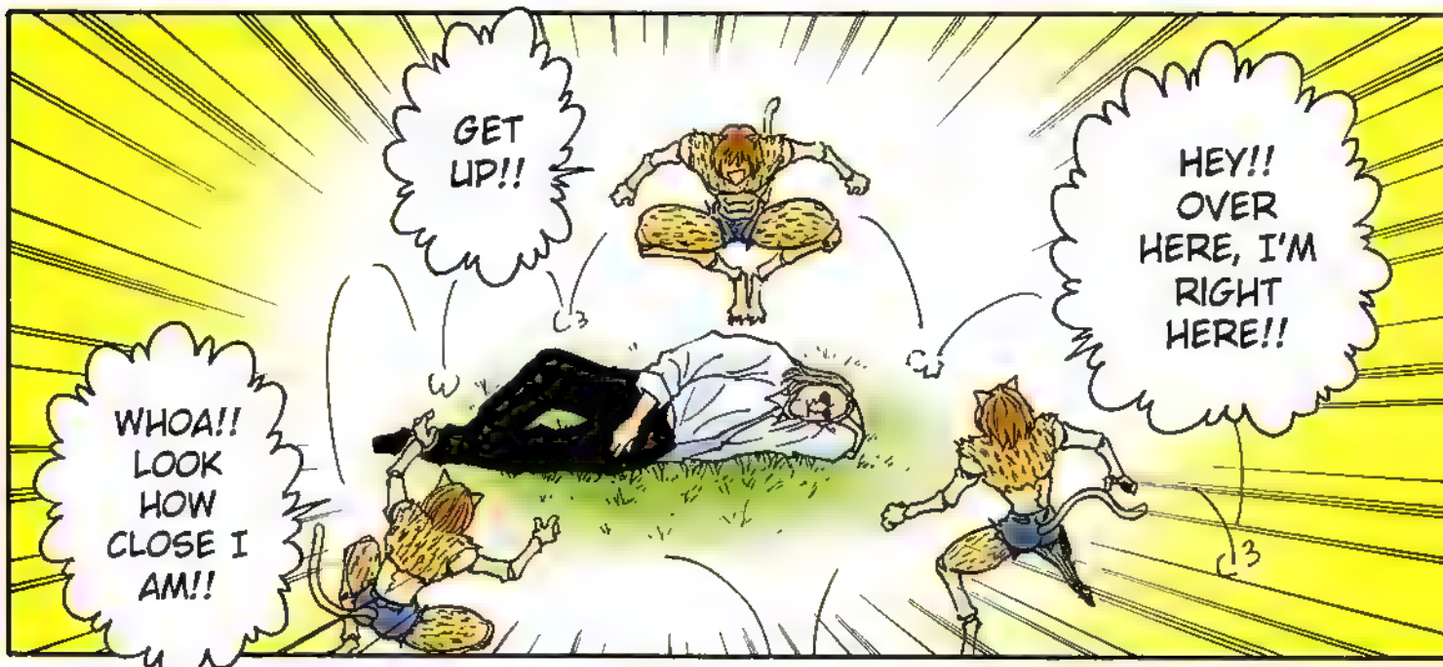

LOOKS LIKE HIS NEW ABILITY STILL NEEDS SOME WORK!
IDIOT!! IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANTED, YOU SHOULD'VE ENFORCED RULES TO MAKE PEOPLE CHASE YOU!!

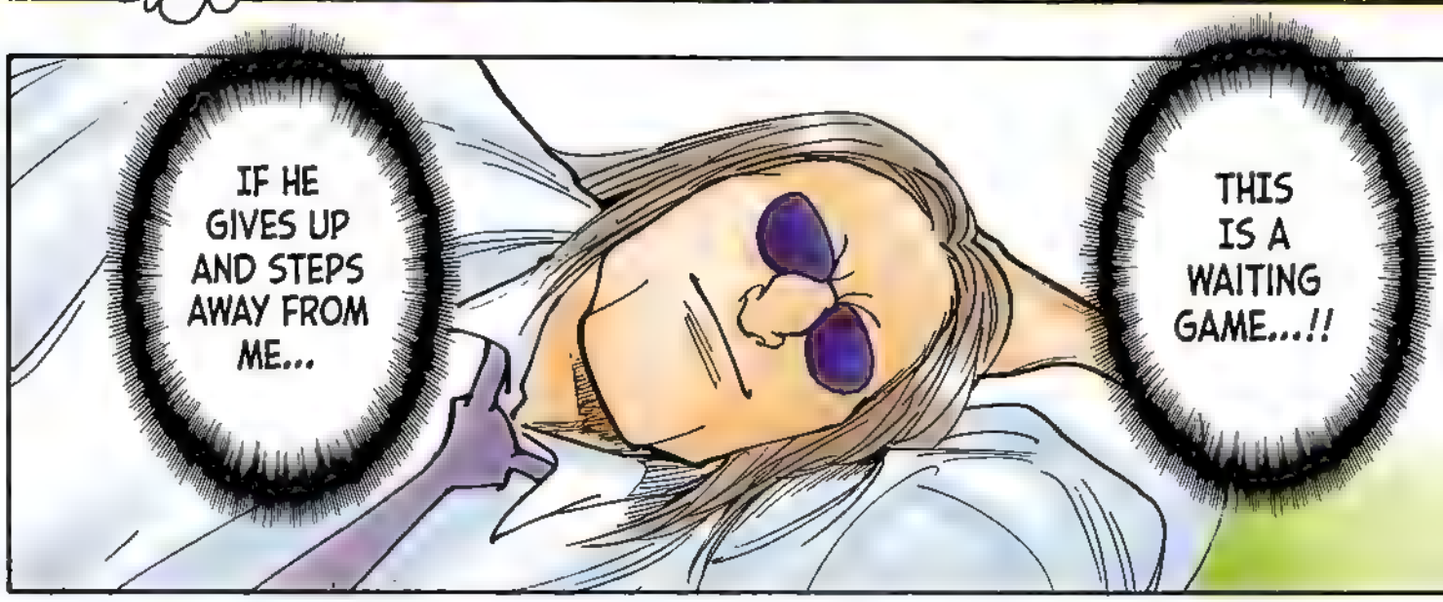
I'LL KEEP BUGGING YOU UNTIL YOU CHASE ME!!
I WON'T LET YOU GET ANY SLEEP!!

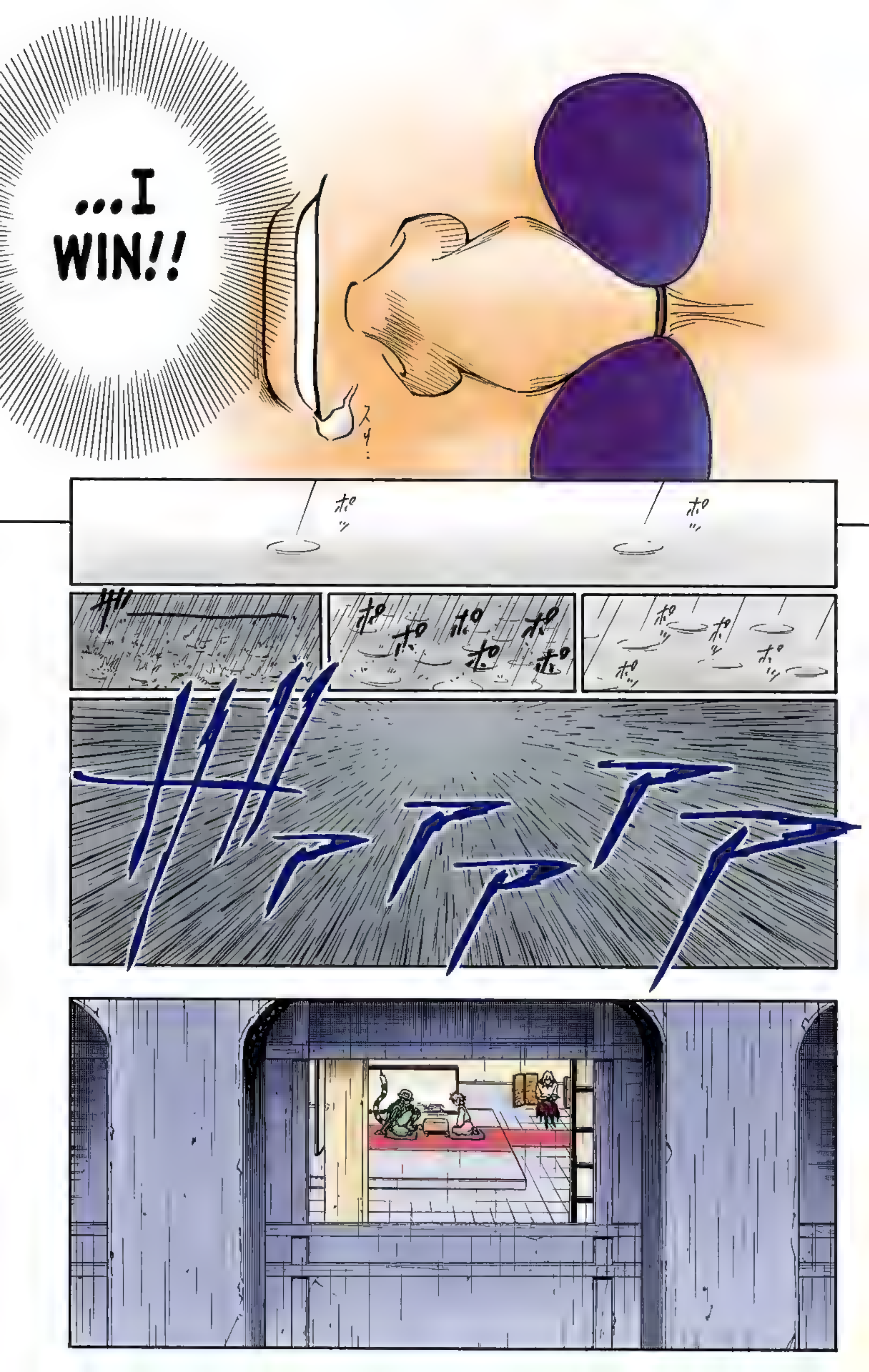

COUPLED WITH HIS CONSTANT NEED FOR ATTENTION, IT'S UNLIKELY THAT HE'LL CHANGE HIS STRATEGY TO SOMETHING ELSE.
HE'S REALLY OBSESSED WITH CHALLENGING ME TO A FOOT-RACE.


I'M NOT GETTING UP FOR THE NEXT 5 HOURS.
DO WHAT YOU WANT.


I'M NOT GONNA LET YOU SLEEP!!!
NO WAY!!


GET UP!!
HEY!! OVER HERE, I'M RIGHT HERE!!
WHOA!! LOOK HOW CLOSE I AM!!


IF HE GIVES UP AND STEPS AWAY FROM ME...
THIS IS A WAITING GAME...!!


...I WIN!!
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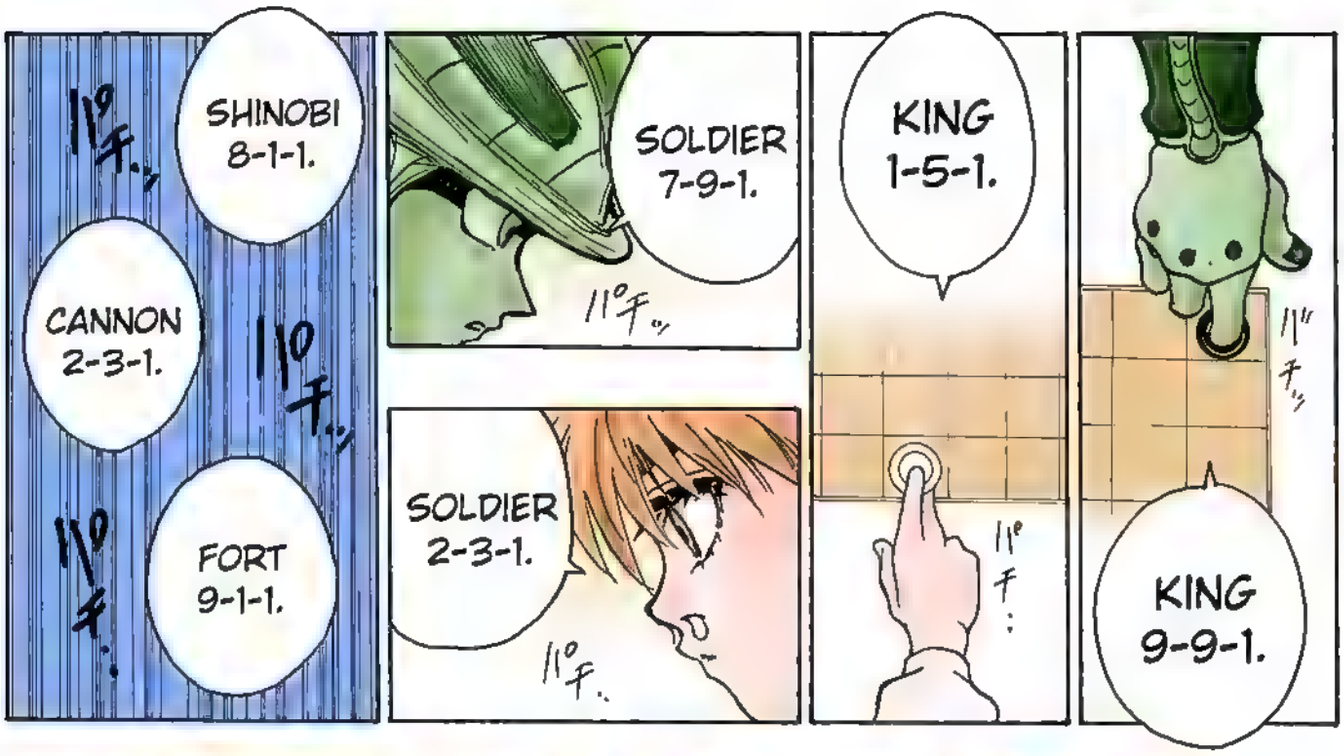
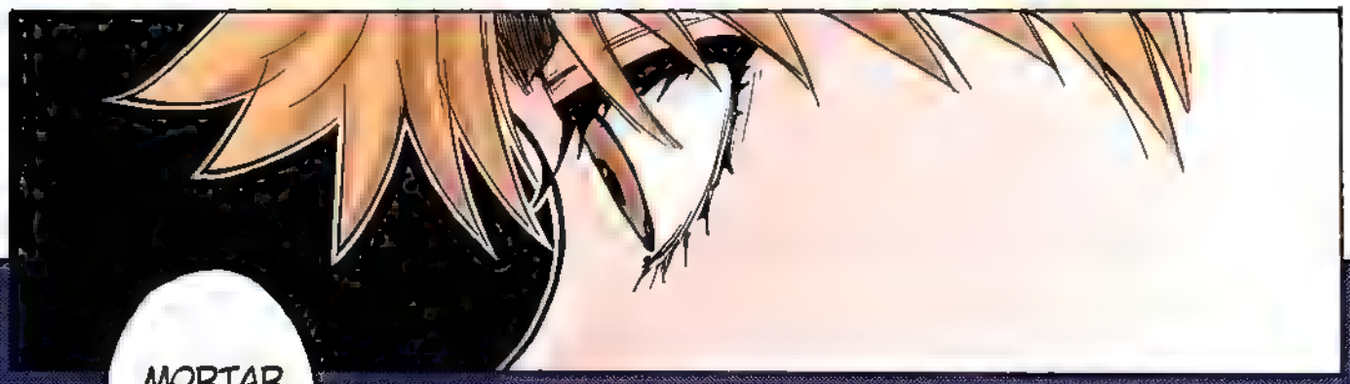
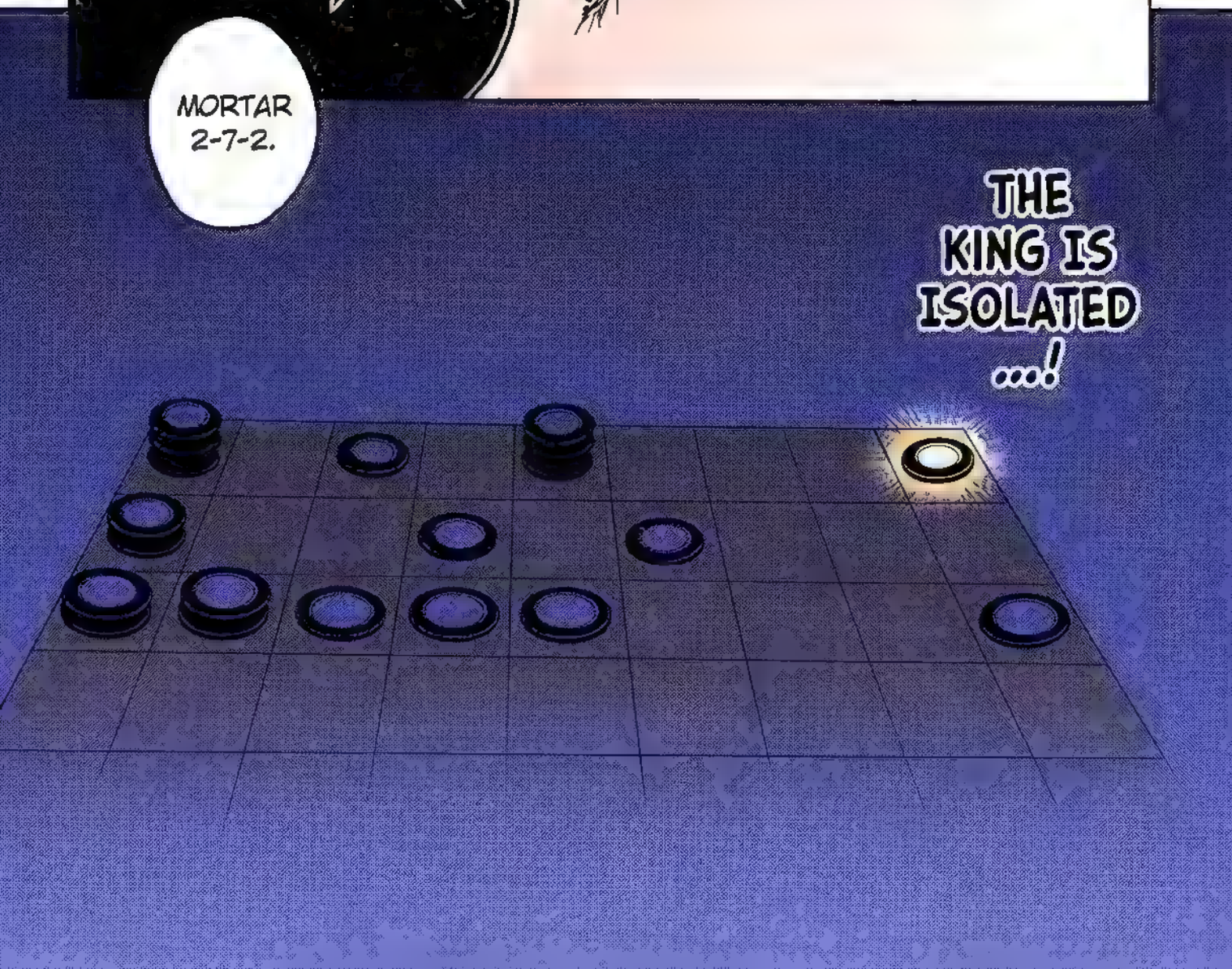
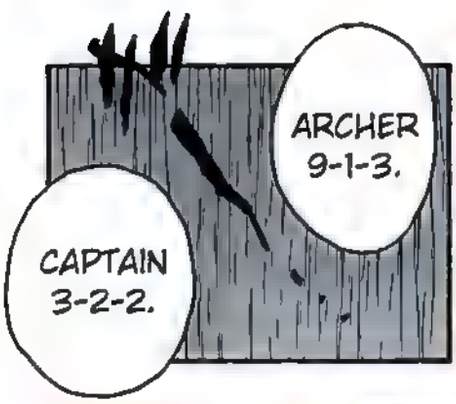
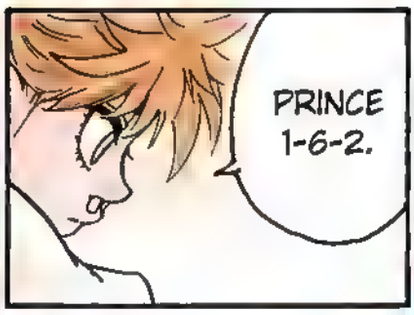

SHINOBI 8-1-1.
CANNON 2-3-1.
FORT 9-1-1.
SOLDIER 7-9-1.
SOLDIER 2-3-1.
KING 1-5-1.
KING 9-9-1.

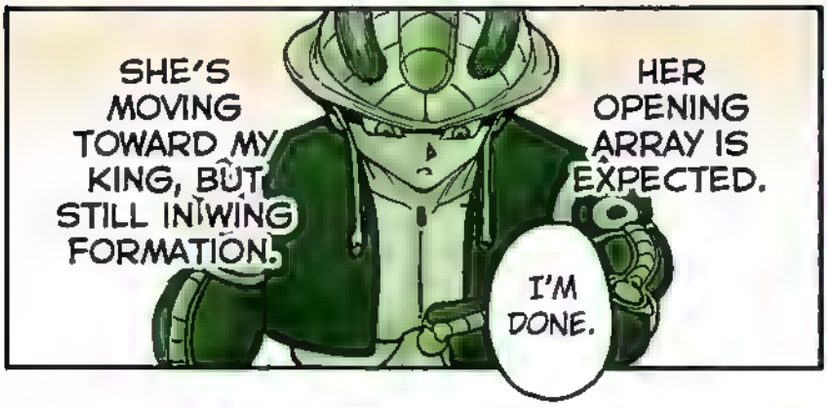

MORTAR 2-7-2.


THE KING IS ISOLATED ...!

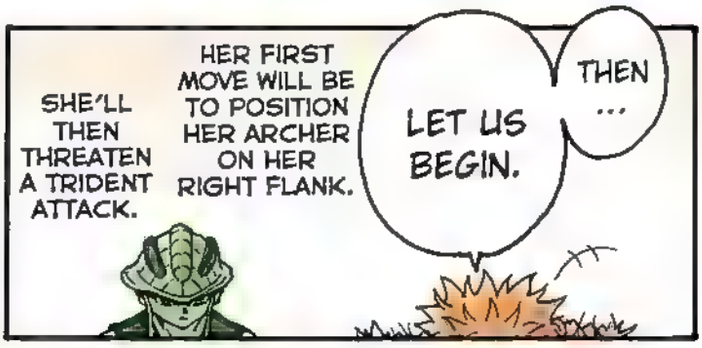

ARCHER 9-1-3.
CAPTAIN 3-2-2.

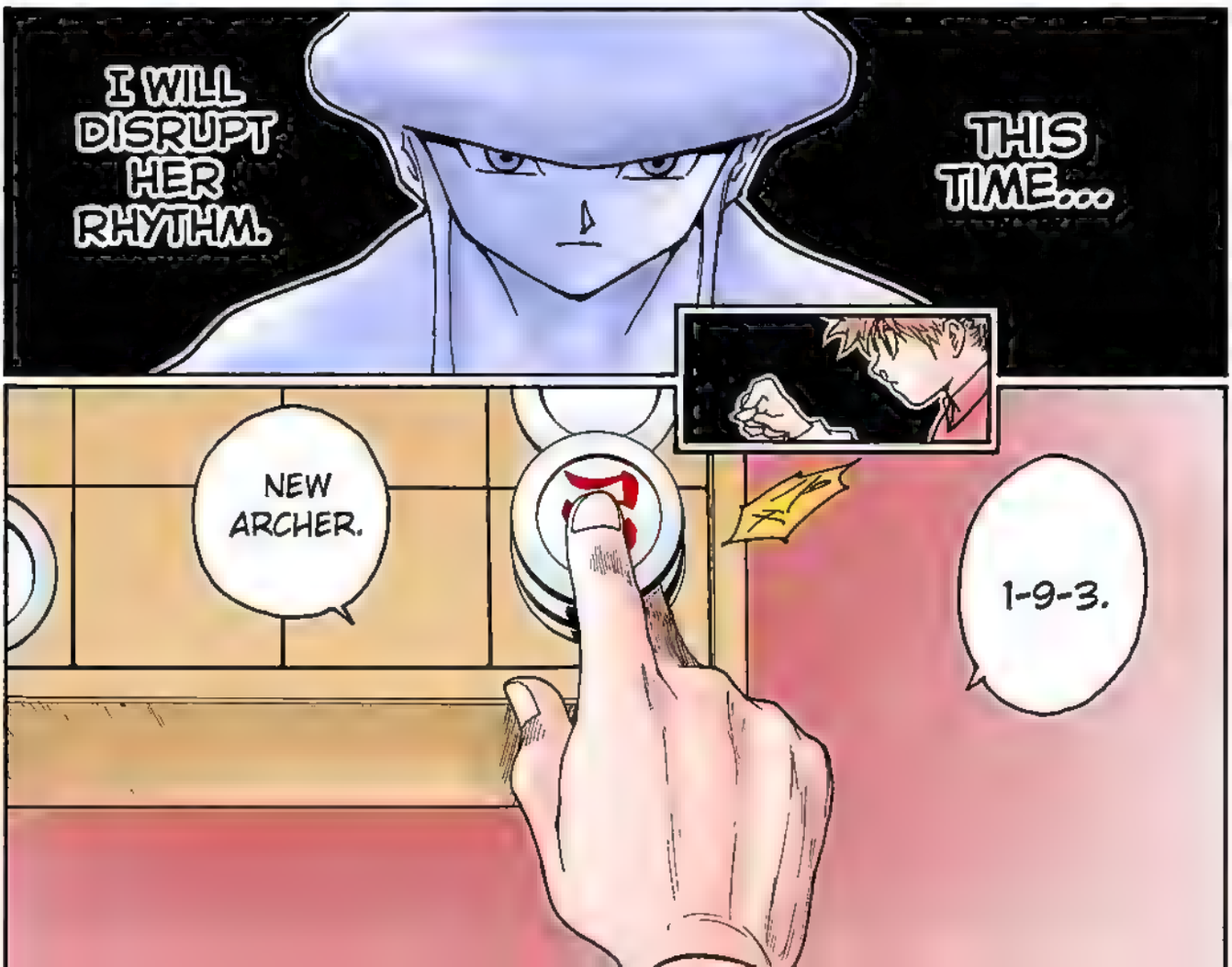

PRINCE 1-6-2.

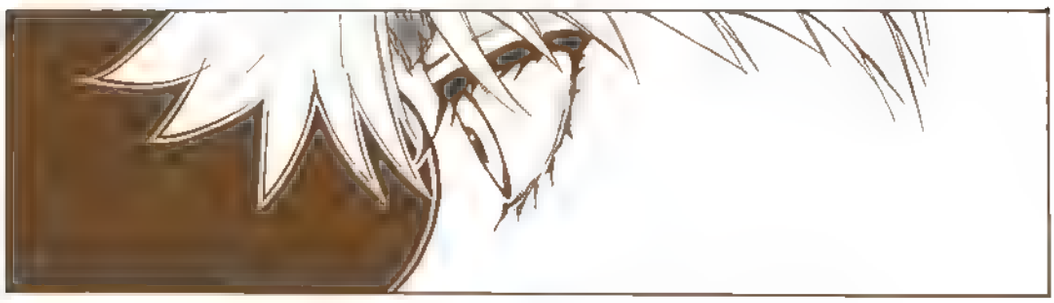
I'LL CALL THIS "DETACH CASTLING."
FORT 7-1-2.


SHE'S MOVING TOWARD MY KING, BUT STILL IN WING FORMATION.
HER OPENING ARRAY IS EXPECTED.
I'M DONE.

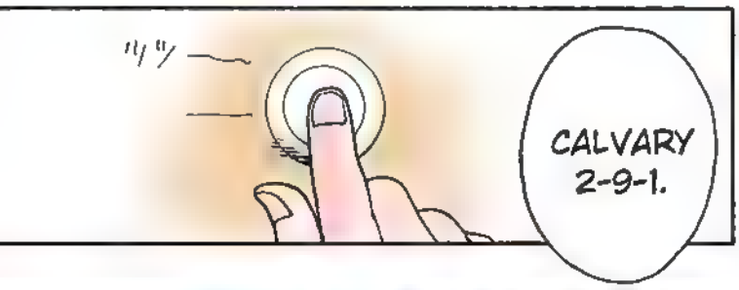
...EXPOSES HER LEFT FLANK TO ATTACK.
BUT SHIFTING HER PIECES TO THE RIGHT...

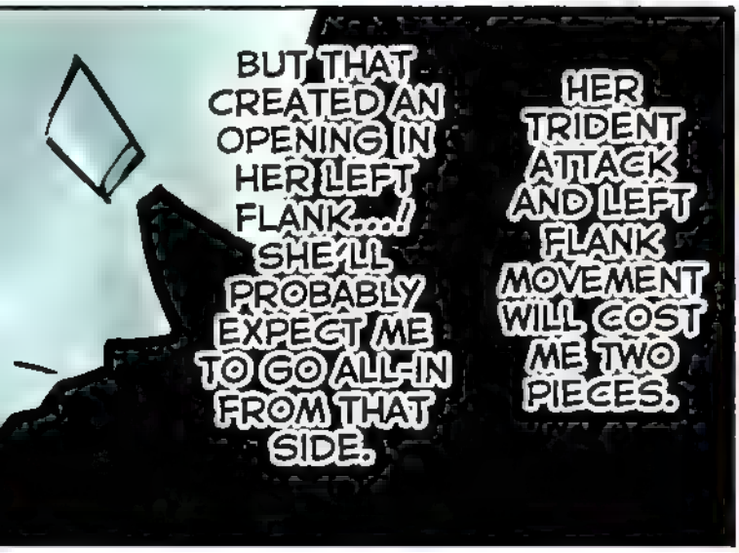

SHE'LL THEN THREATEN A TRIDENT ATTACK.
HER FIRST MOVE WILL BE TO POSITION HER ARCHER ON HER RIGHT FLANK.
LET US BEGIN.
THEN ...

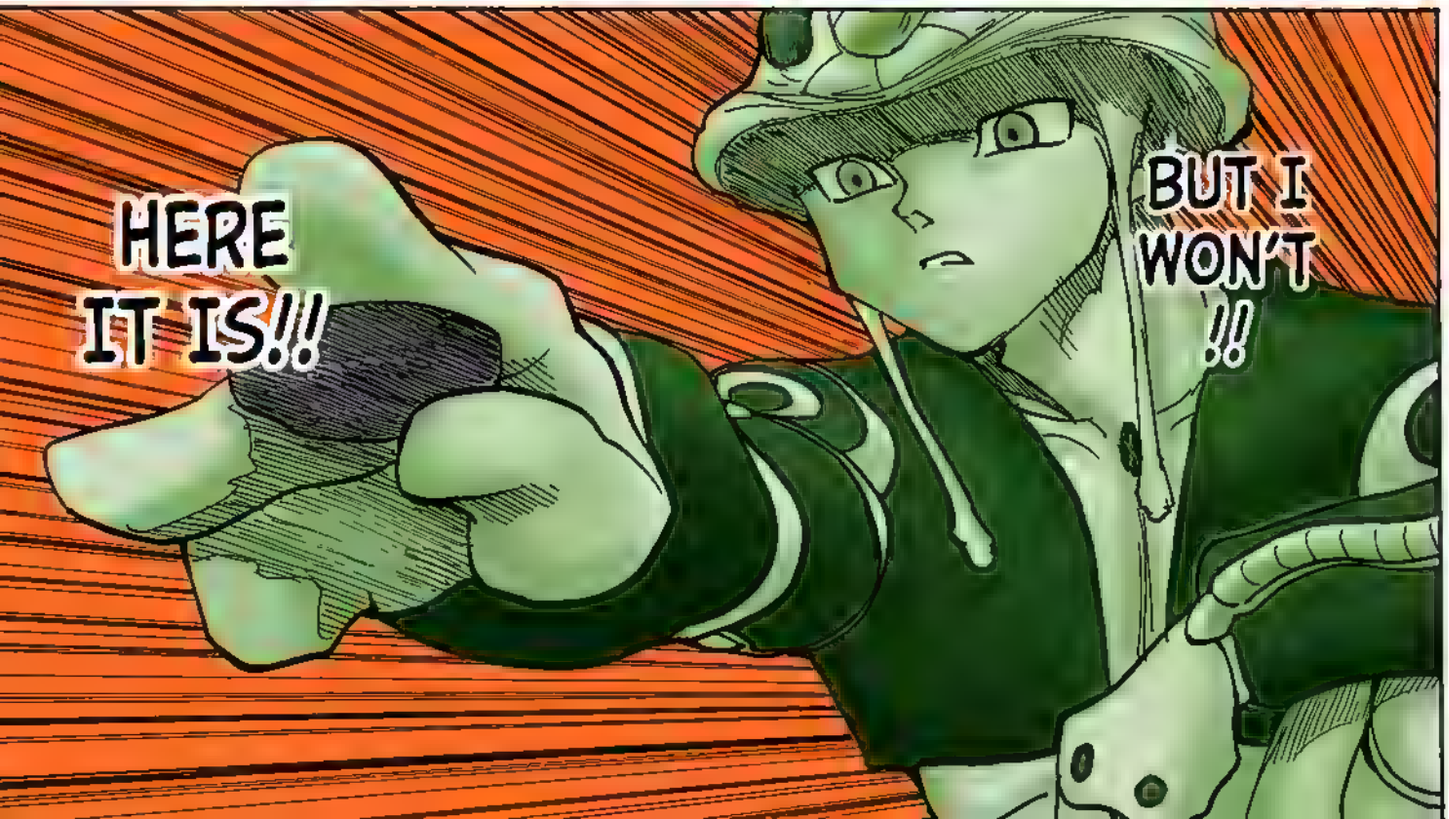

I WILL DISRUPT HER RHYTHM.
THIS TIME...
NEW ARCHER.
1-9-3.



No.247 ◆ 6: PART ④







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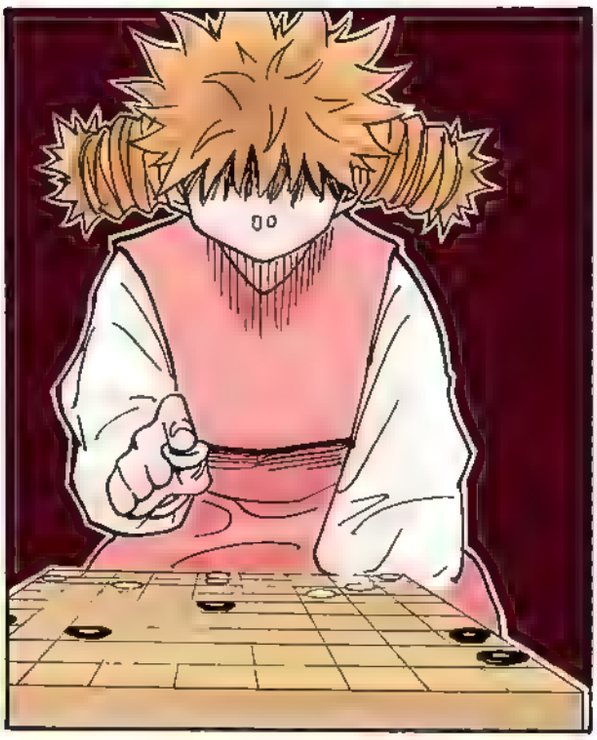
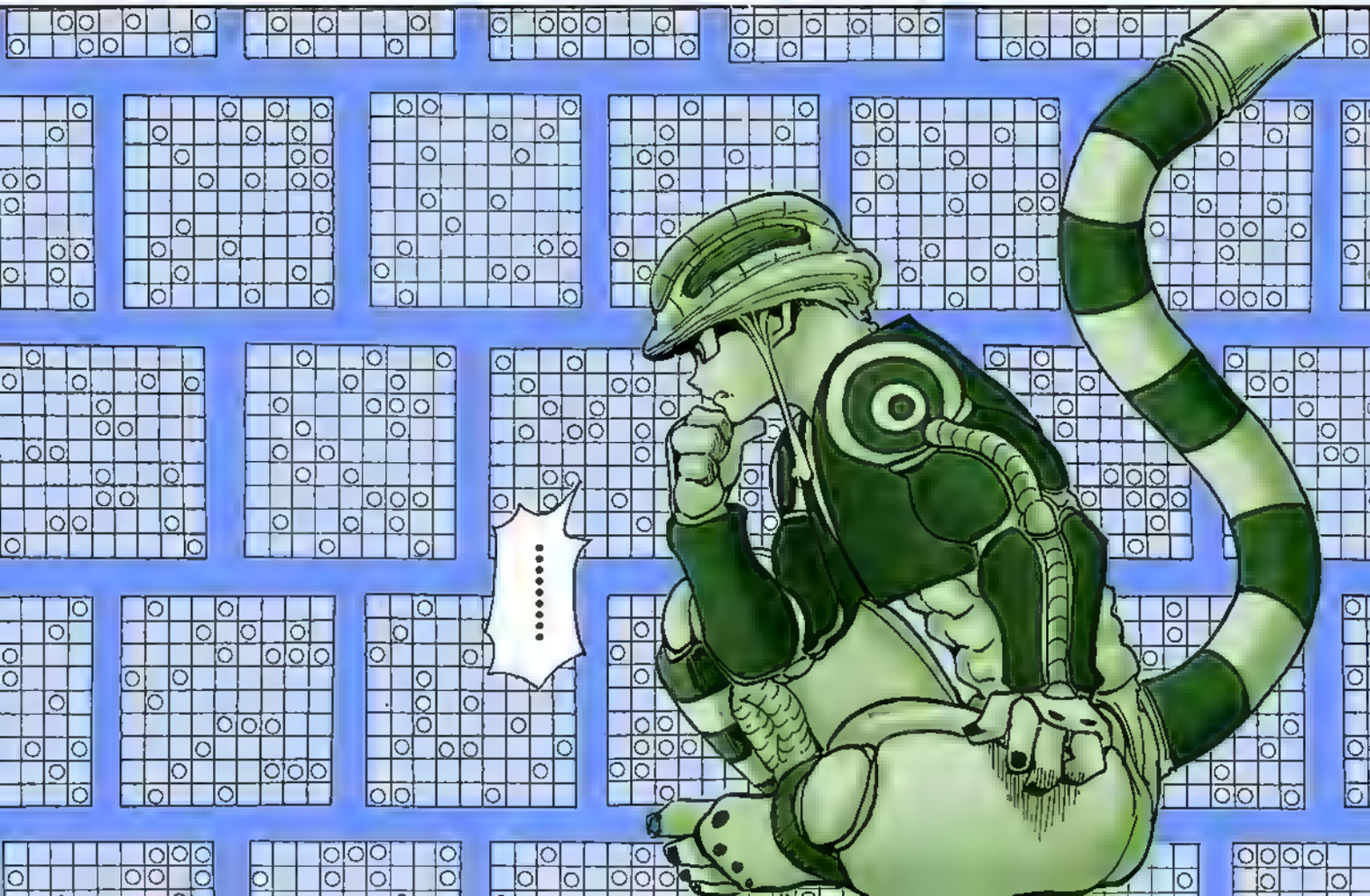
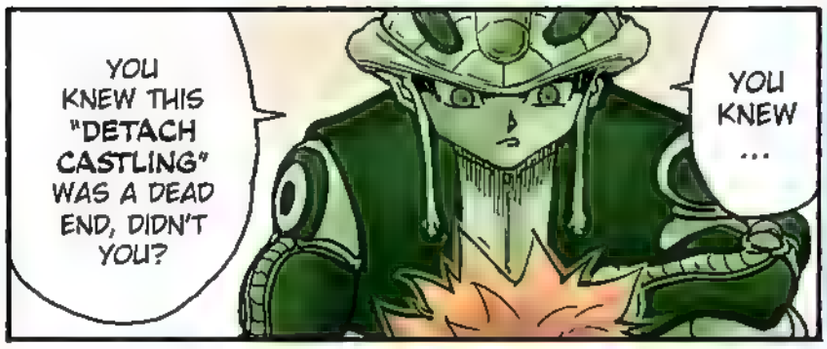
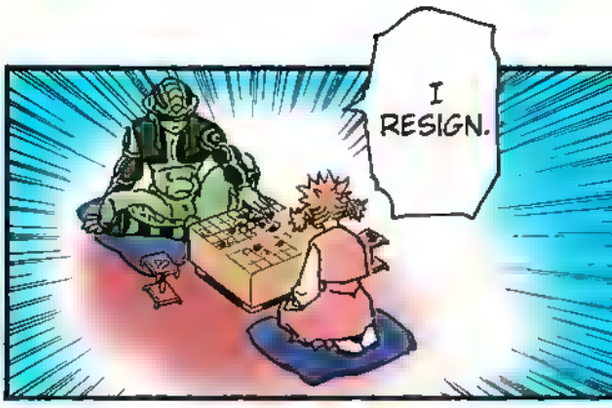
DUKE 5-5-1.
SHE PAUSED FOR THE FIRST TIME...!
SHE'S BEEN PLAYING WITH A CONSTANT TEMPO, BUT NOW...
WITH EVERY TURN, I HAVE THE ABILITY TO EXTEND THE MATCH.
THERE ARE NO CORRECT MOVES.
ATTACKS FROM... THIS CENTRAL PLACEMENT ARE INFINITE!!
...GASP FOR BREATH ...!!
NOW, LET ME HEAR YOU...

NEW DUKE 9-2-1.

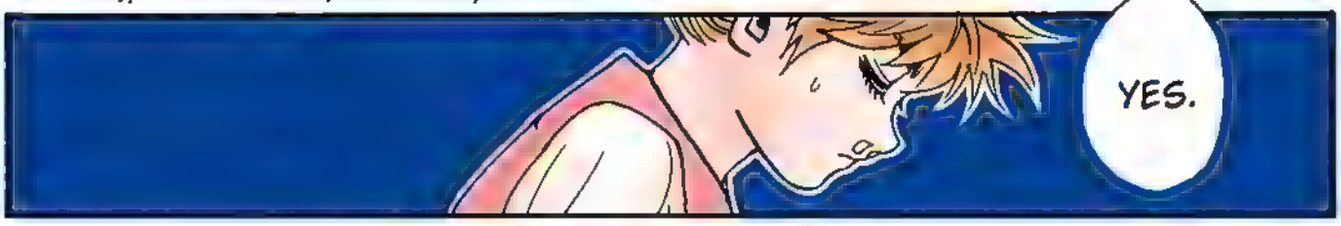


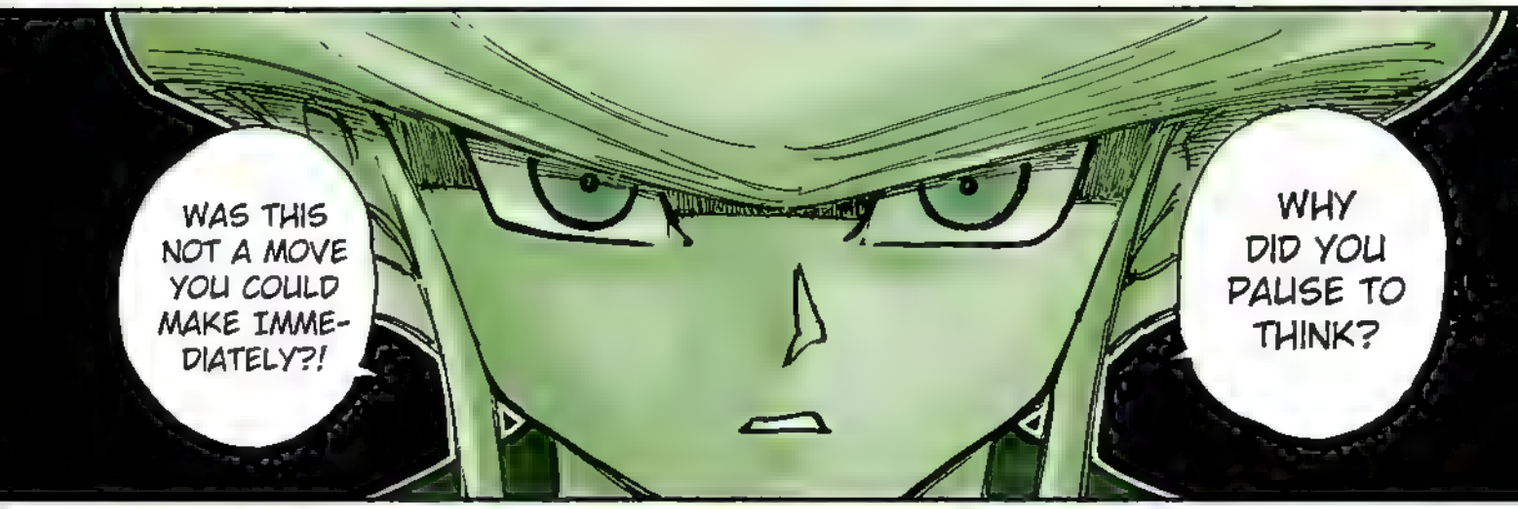

!!!!!!!

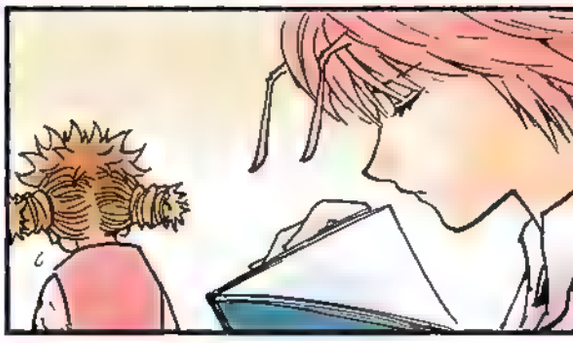


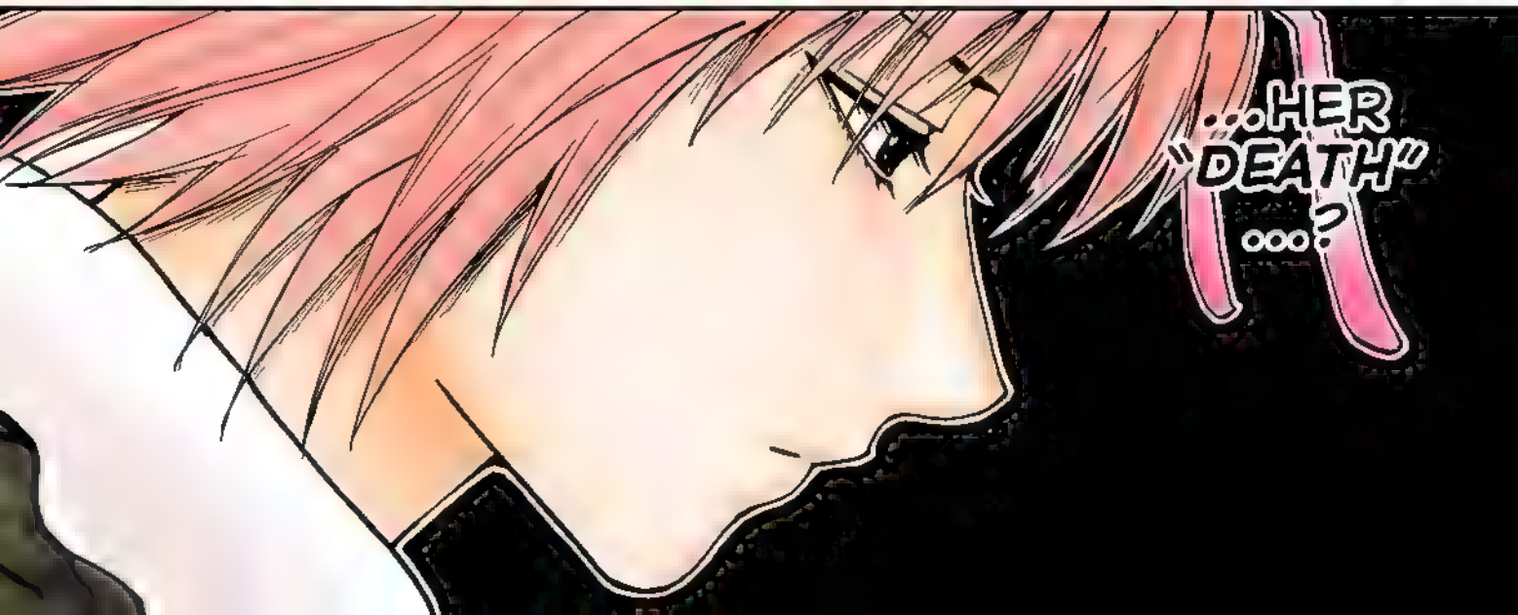


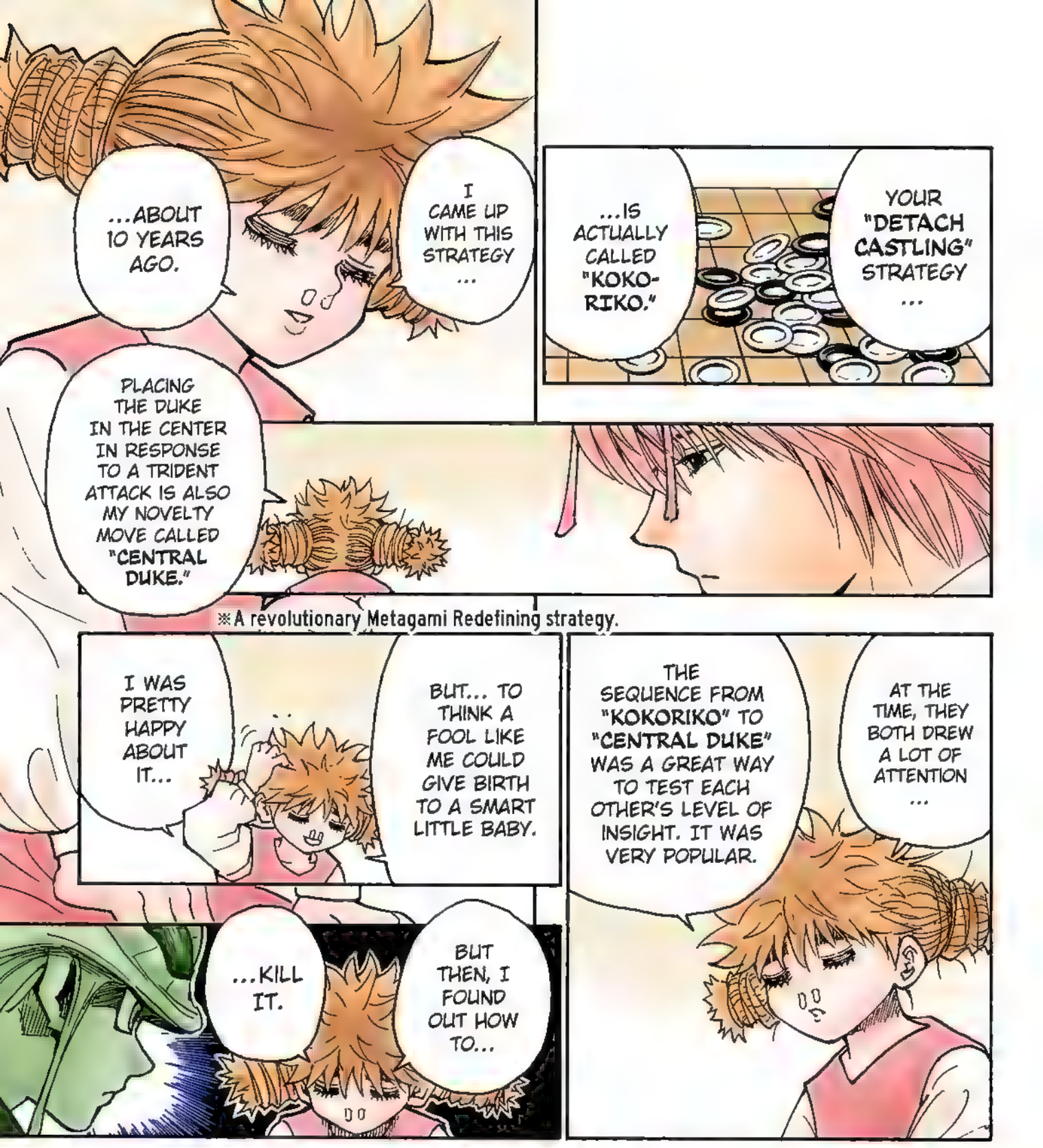
※ A strategy that fails to hold up after an analysis.







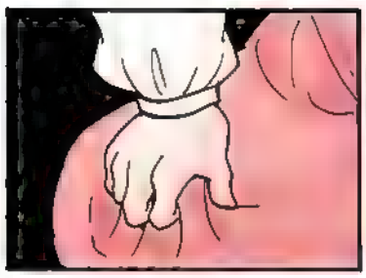


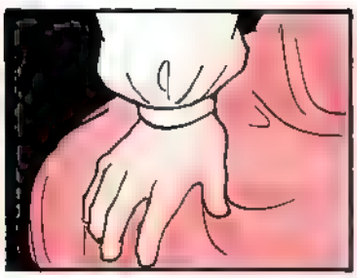


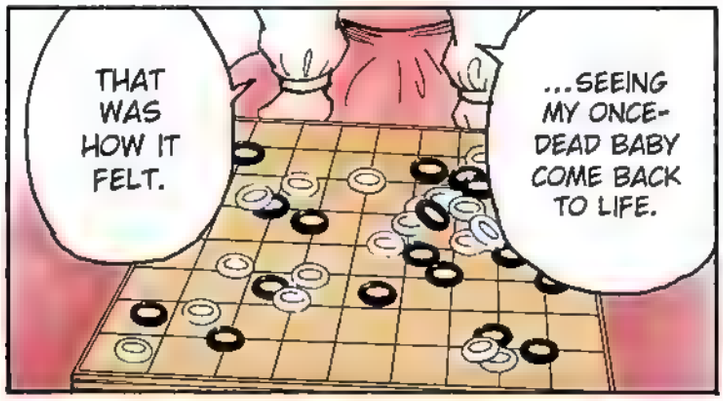
I WON THE MATCH, AND IT DISAPPEARED FROM OFFICIAL MATCHES AND TEXTBOOKS.

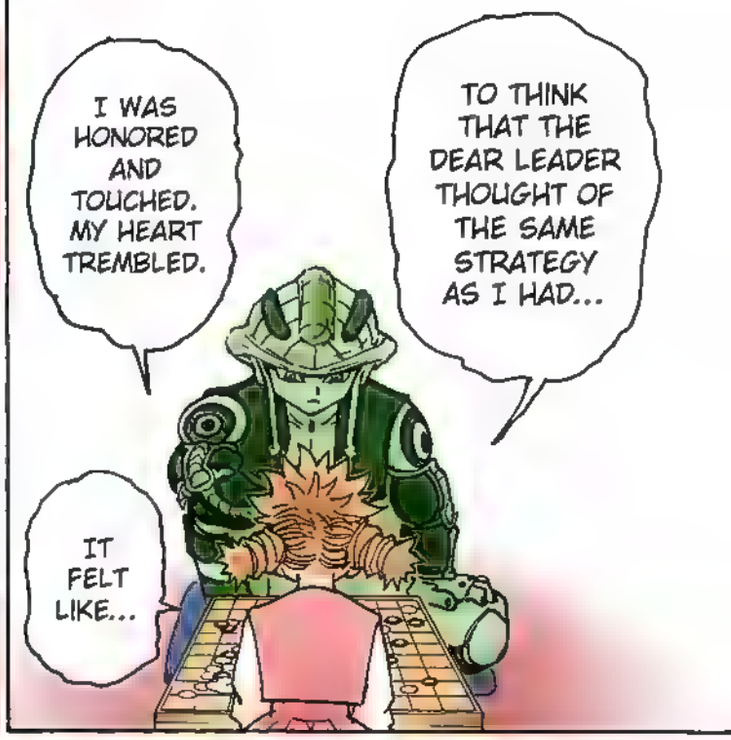
AND... I FIGURED OUT A COUNTER MOVE.

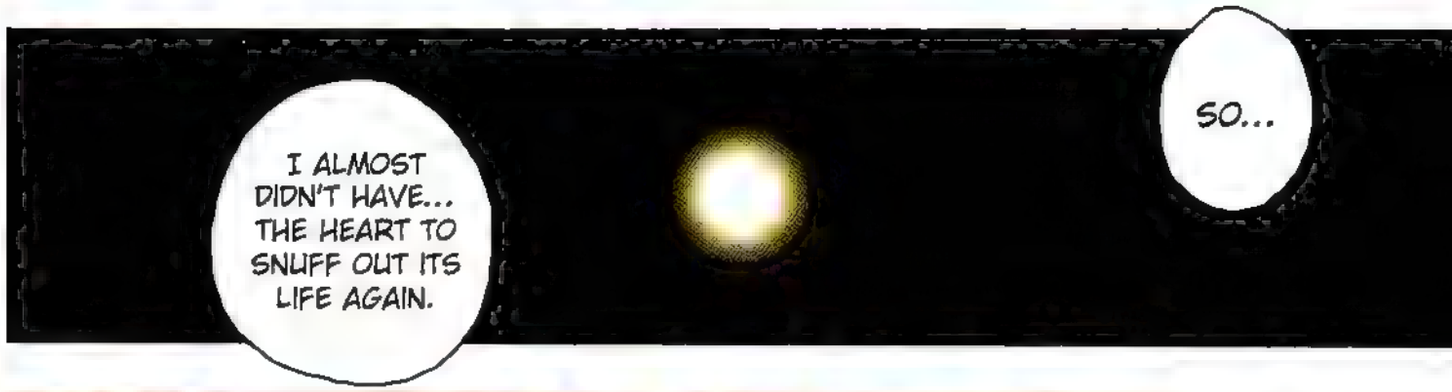
A YEAR AFTER I CAME UP WITH KOKORIKO... AN OPPONENT USED IT AGAINST ME IN THE NATIONAL TITLE TOURNAMENT.

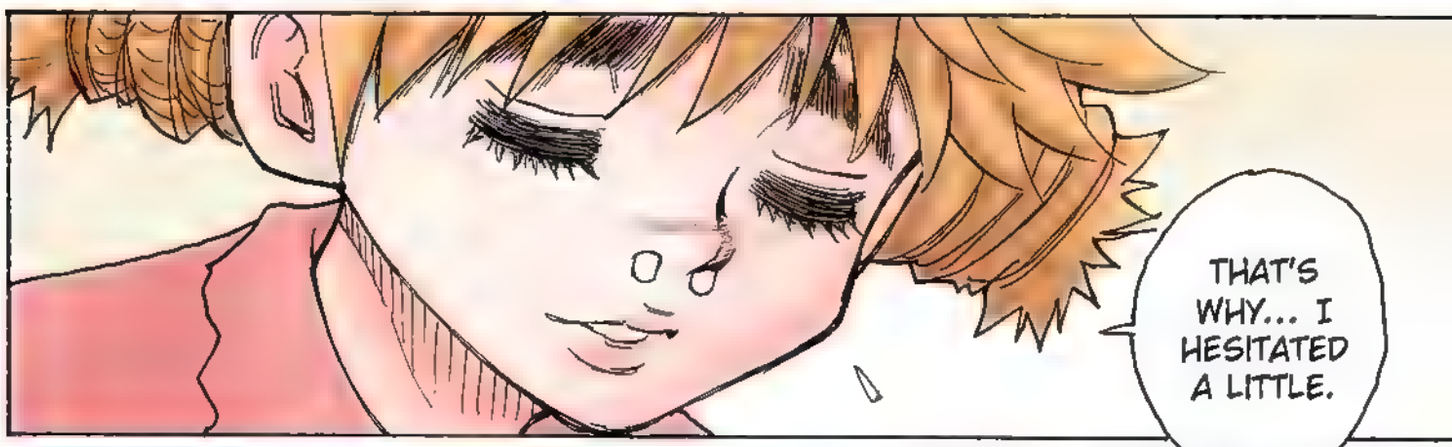


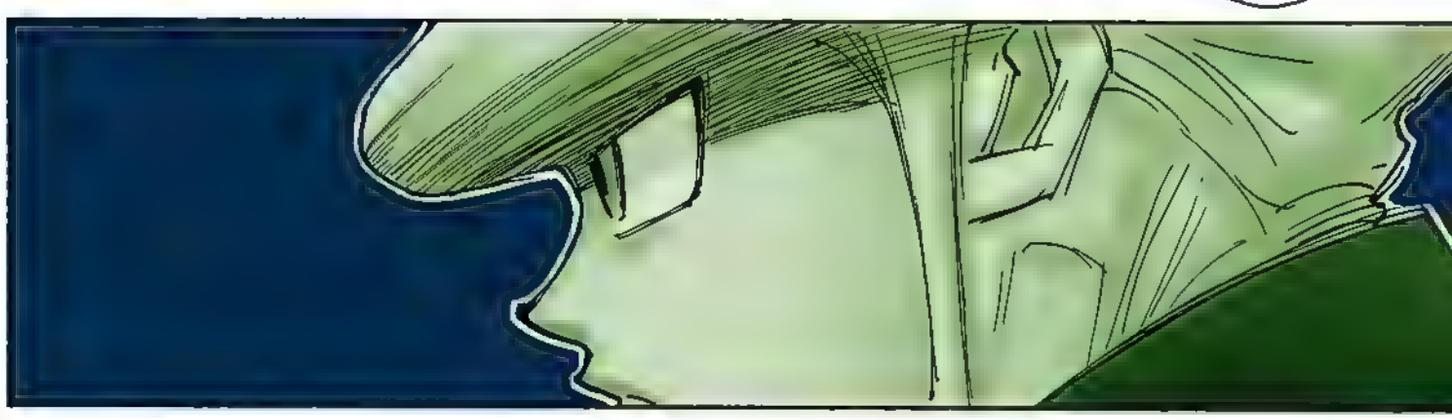


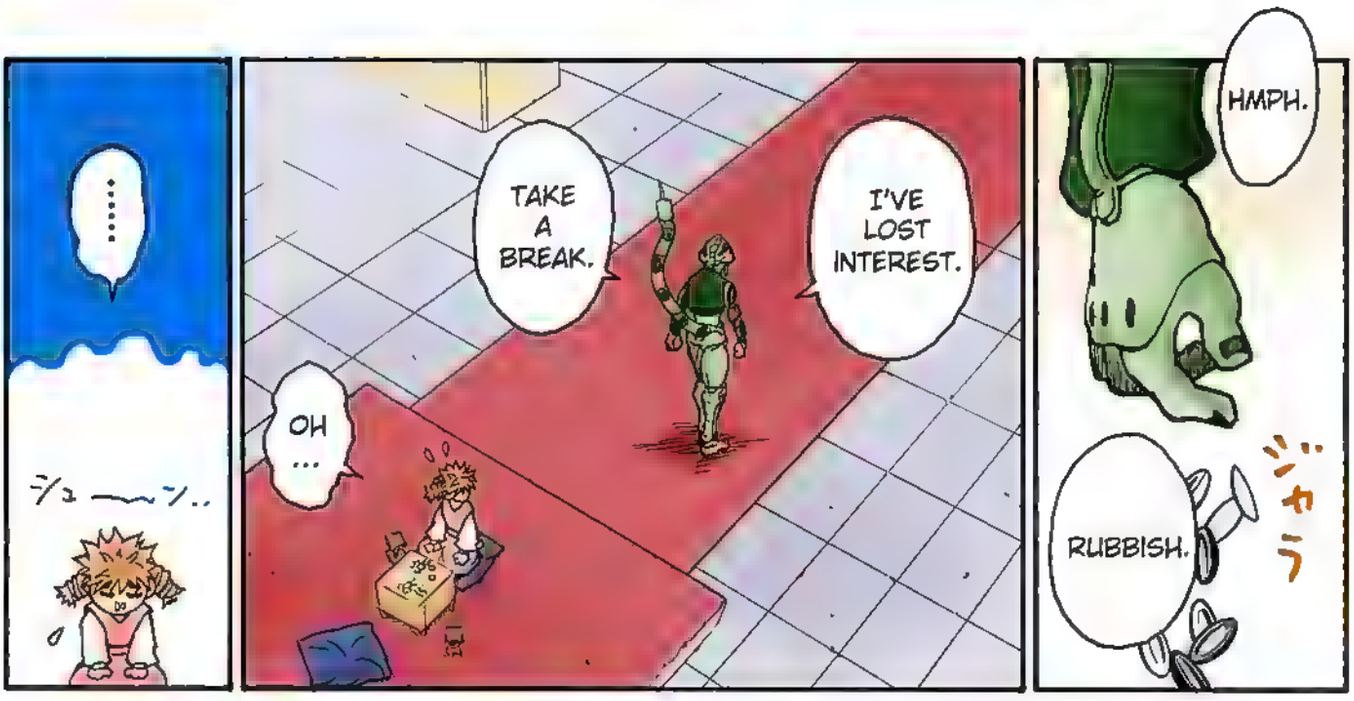

THAT WAS HOW IT FELT.
...SEEING MY ONCE-DEAD BABY COME BACK TO LIFE.

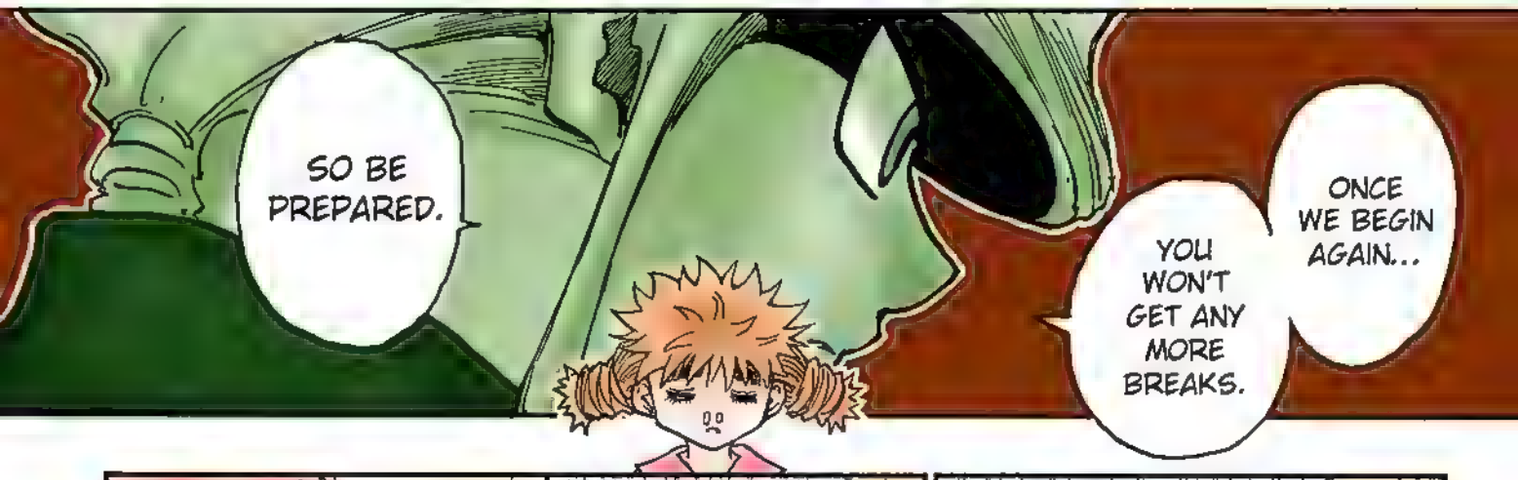

I WAS HONORED AND TOUCHED. MY HEART TREMBLED.
TO THINK THAT THE DEAR LEADER THOUGHT OF THE SAME STRATEGY AS I HAD...
IT FELT LIKE...

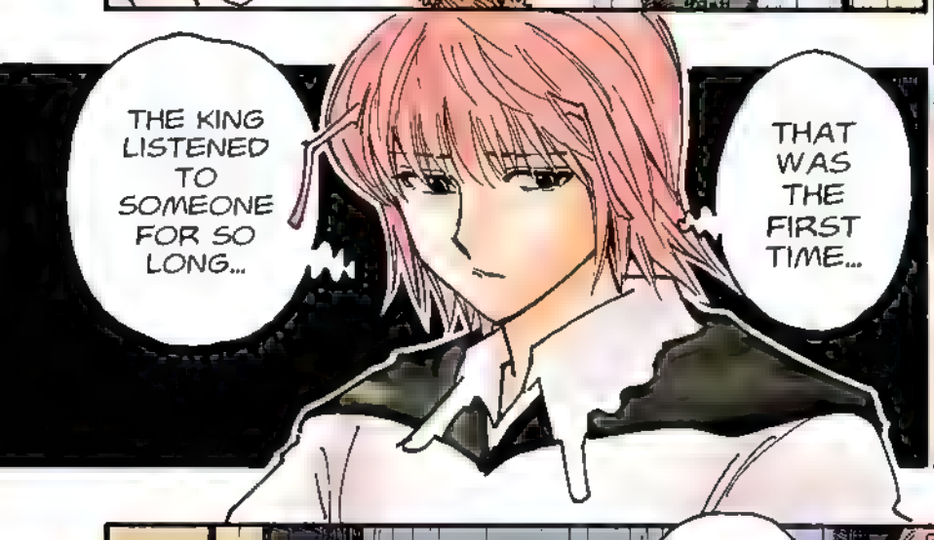

SO...
I ALMOST DIDN'T HAVE... THE HEART TO SNUFF OUT ITS LIFE AGAIN.

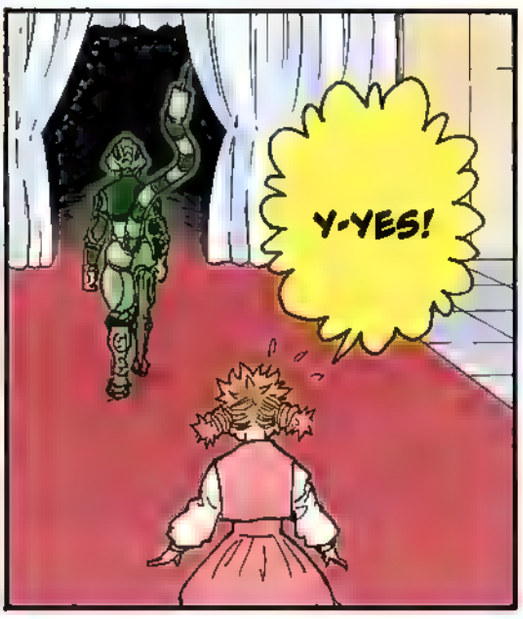

THAT'S WHY... I HESITATED A LITTLE.

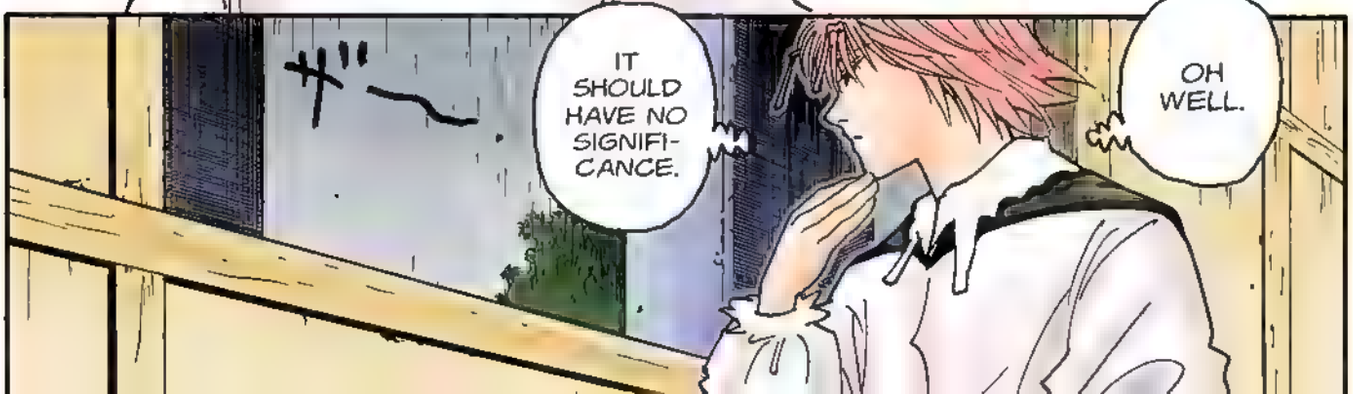


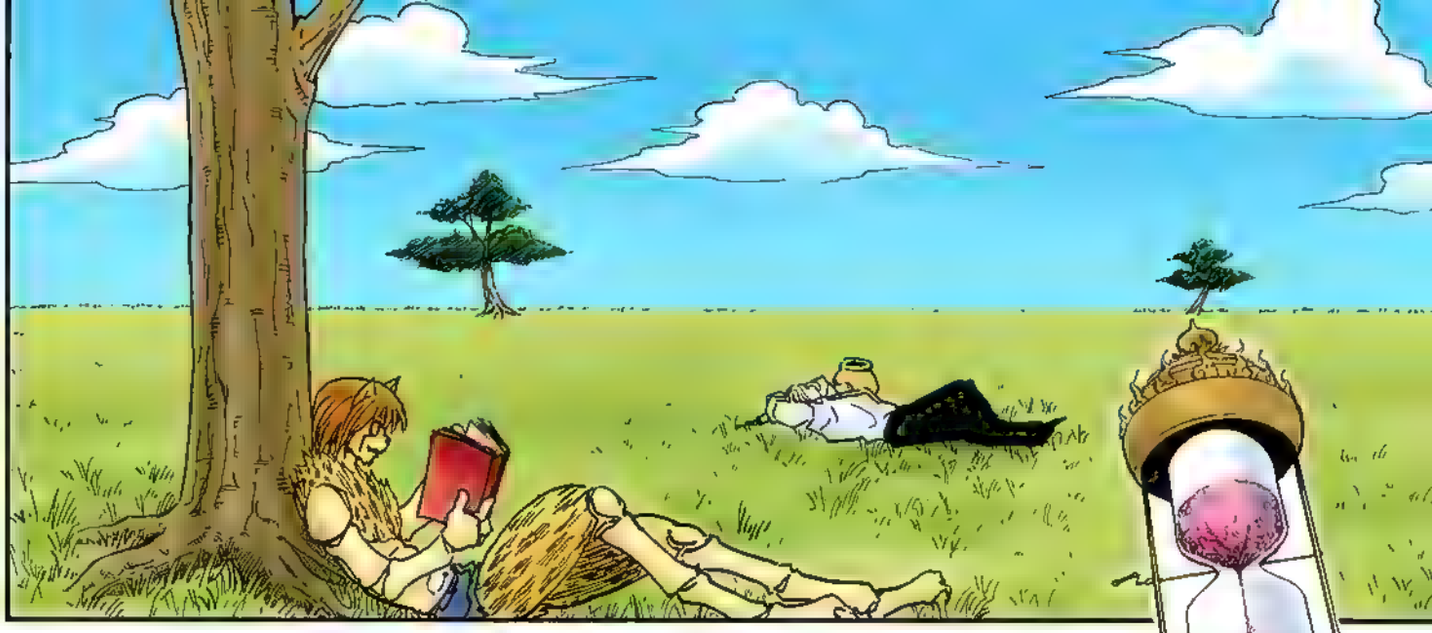

……
ﾌｭｰｰﾝ..
TAKE A BREAK.
I'VE LOST INTEREST.
OH …
HMPH.
RUBBISH.
ジャラ

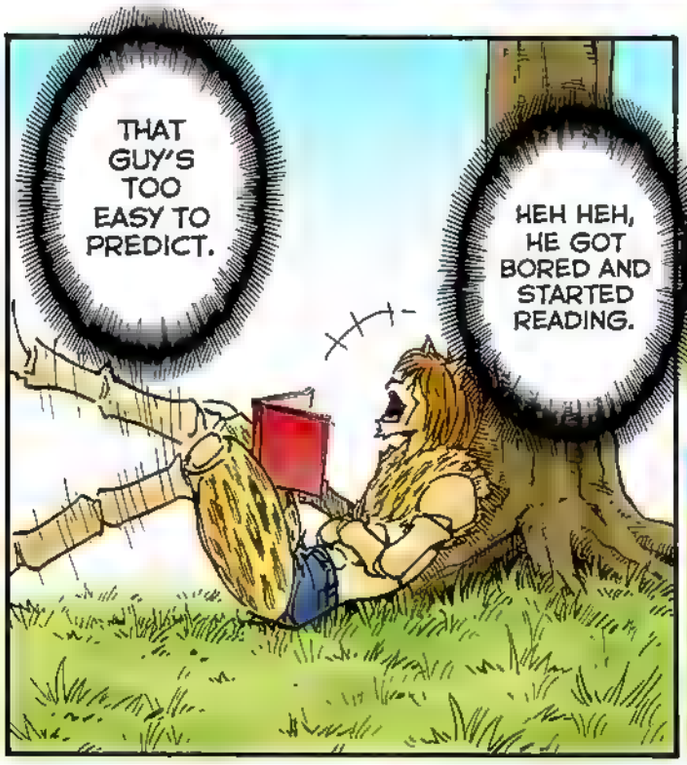

SO BE PREPARED.
YOU WON'T GET ANY MORE BREAKS.
ONCE WE BEGIN AGAIN…

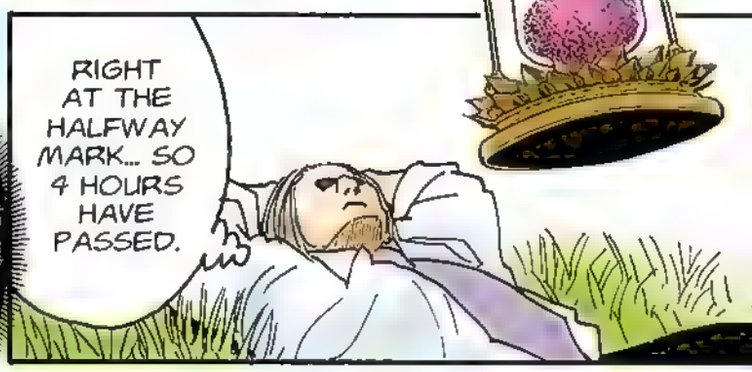

THE KING LISTENED TO SOMEONE FOR SO LONG…
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME…


Y-YES!

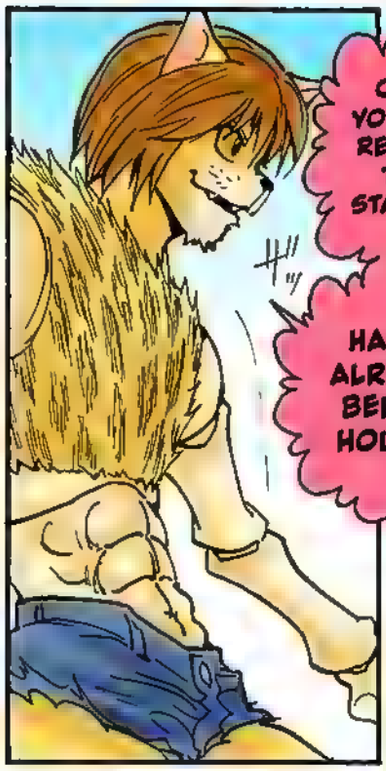

IT SHOULD HAVE NO SIGNIFI-CANCE.
OH WELL.

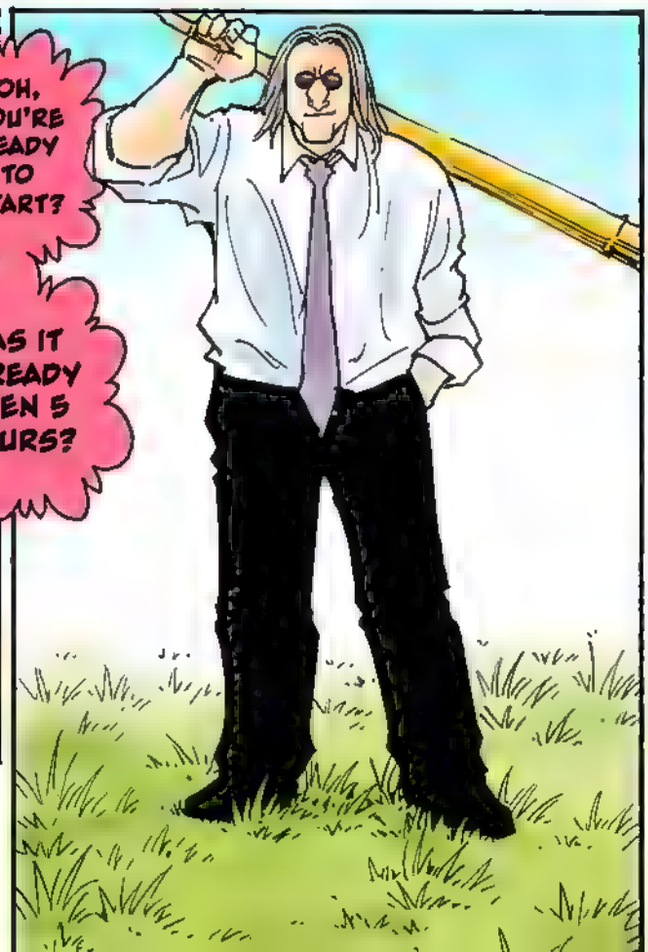


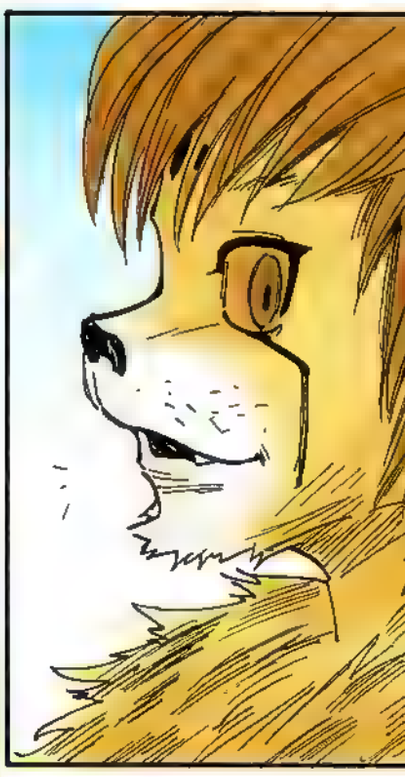

THAT GUY'S TOO EASY TO PREDICT.
HEH HEH, HE GOT BORED AND STARTED READING.


RIGHT AT THE HALFWAY MARK... SO 4 HOURS HAVE PASSED.

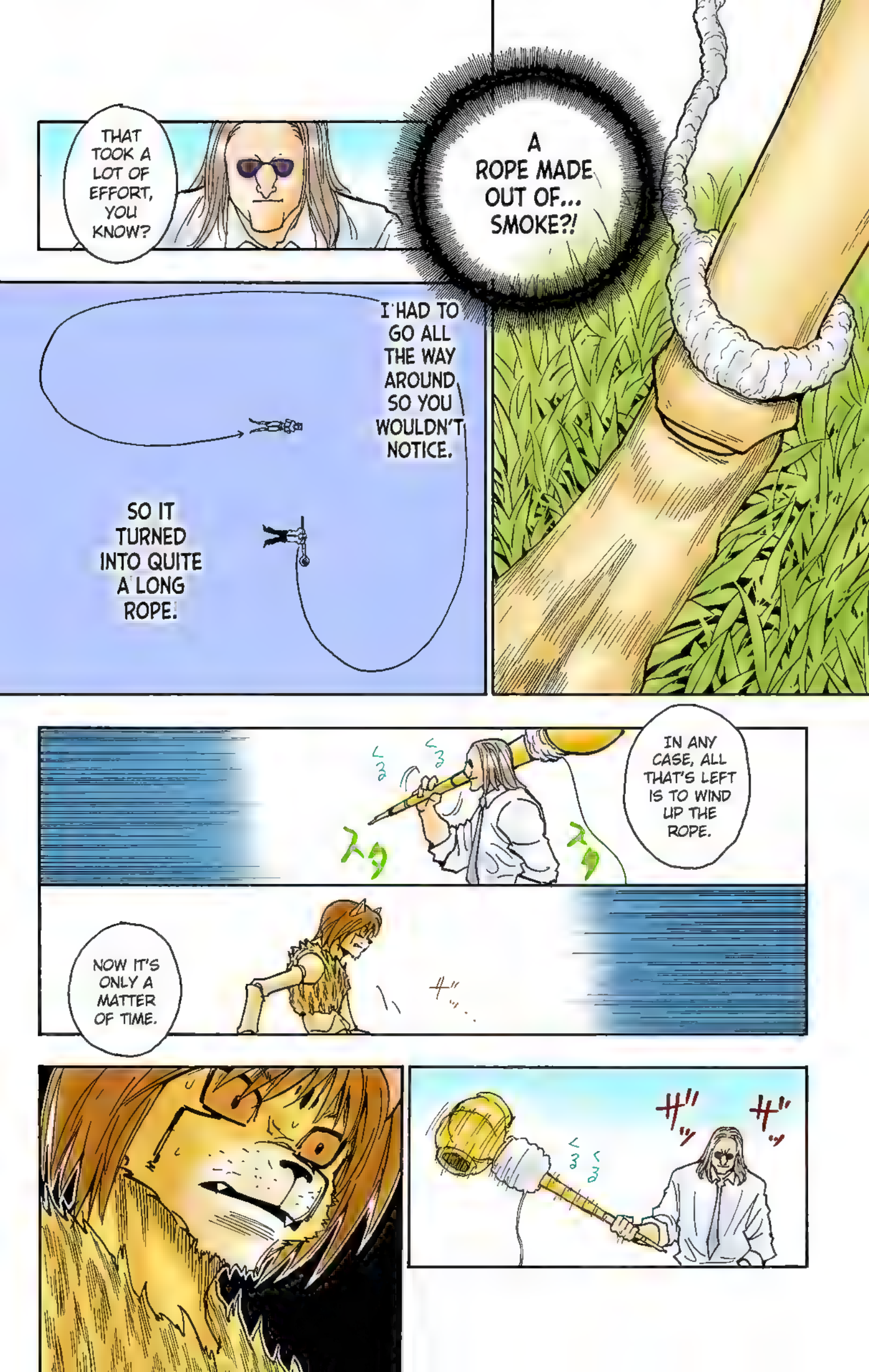
AH HA HA

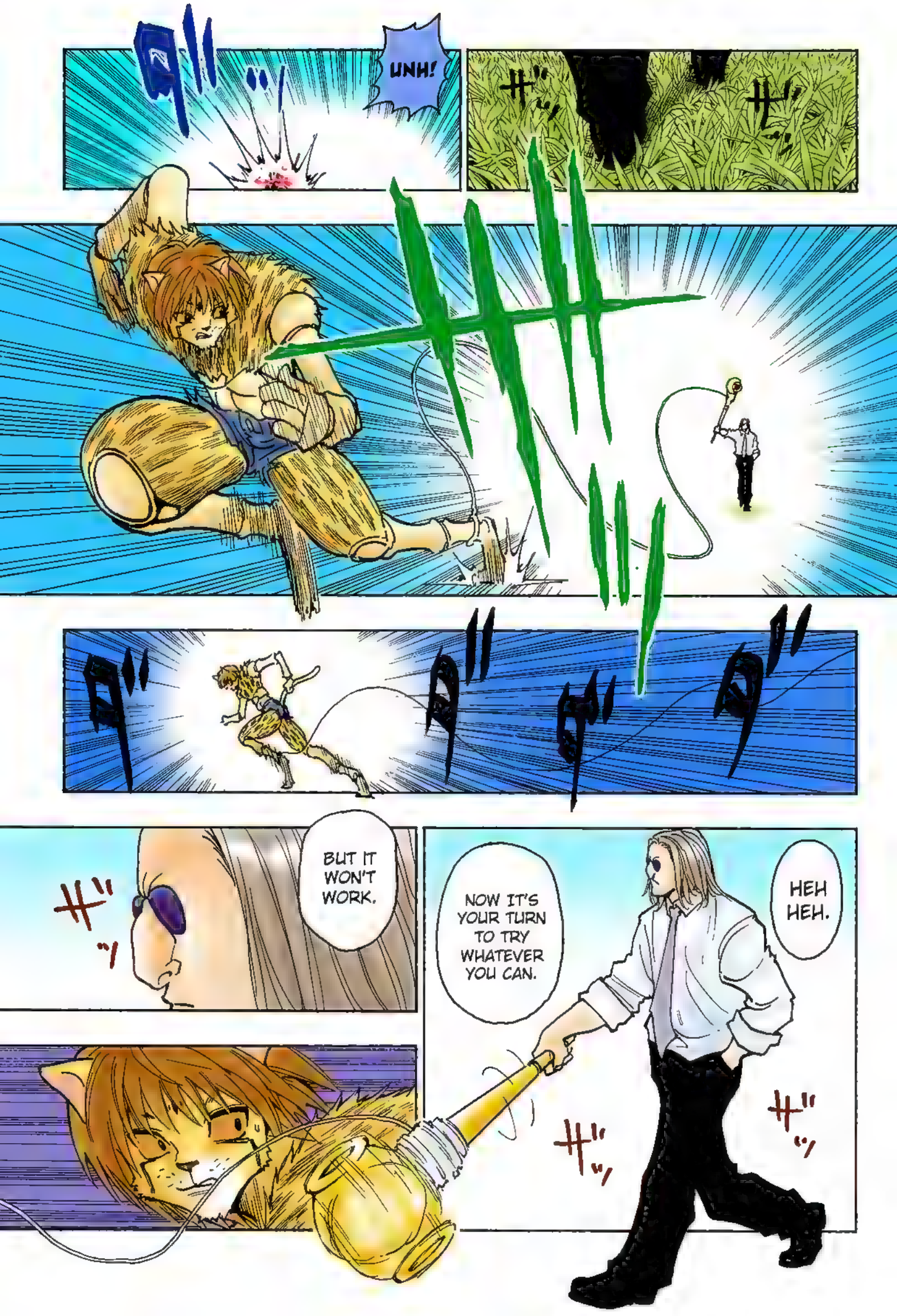

OH, YOU'RE READY TO START?
HAS IT ALREADY BEEN 5 HOURS?





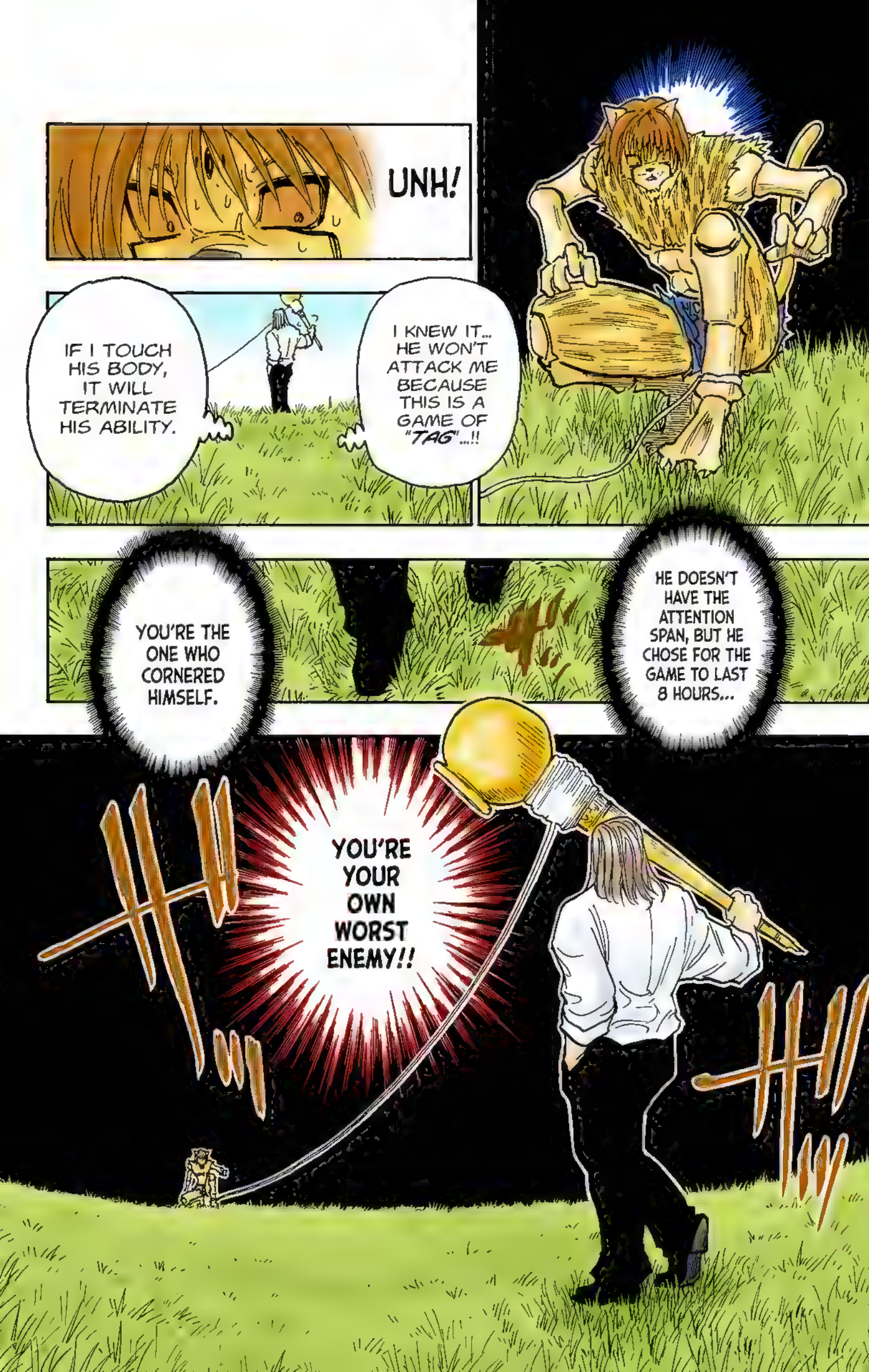
HAA HAA HAA! ARE YOU GETTING ANXIOUS?
HUH? IT'S ONLY HALFWAY DONE.
SO, YOU NOTICED?
IT'S NOT TIME TO BEGIN. IT'S ALREADY OVER.
TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR ANKLE.

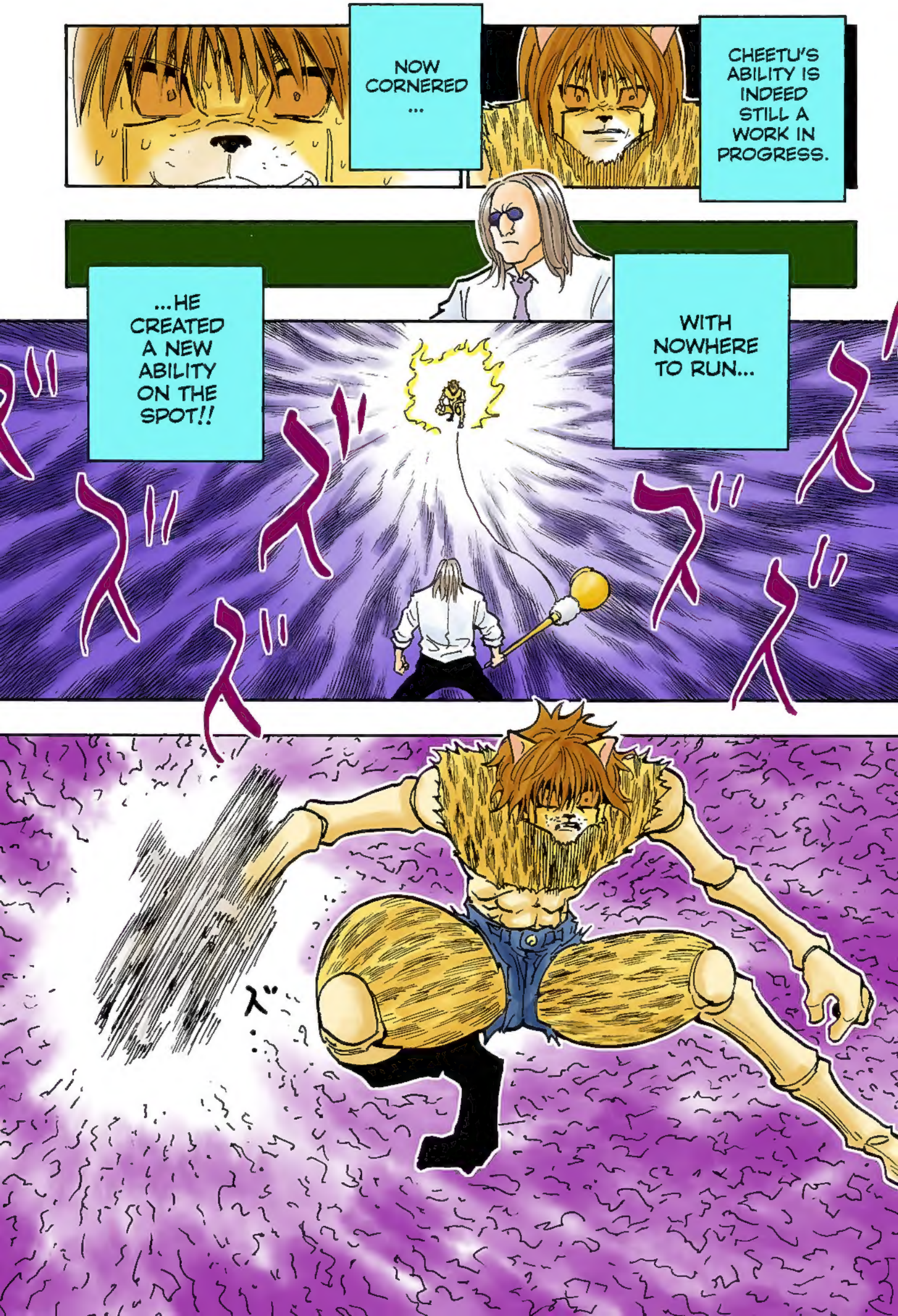

THAT TOOK A LOT OF EFFORT, YOU KNOW?
A ROPE MADE OUT OF... SMOKE?!
I HAD TO GO ALL THE WAY AROUND SO YOU WOULDN'T NOTICE.
SO IT TURNED INTO QUITE A LONG ROPE.
IN ANY CASE, ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO WIND UP THE ROPE.
NOW IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.


UNH!
BUT IT WON'T WORK.
NOW IT'S YOUR TURN TO TRY WHATEVER YOU CAN.
HEH HEH.

ドーン!!
ガ
ッ!!

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE IT BECAUSE IT'S SMOKE. ESSENTIALLY, IT'S AN UNBREAKABLE ROPE.
SO YOU CAN STRUGGLE ALL YOU WANT.
RAA-AGHH !!!


UNH!
IF I TOUCH HIS BODY, IT WILL TERMINATE HIS ABILITY.
I KNEW IT... HE WON'T ATTACK ME BECAUSE THIS IS A GAME OF "TAG"...!!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CORNERED HIMSELF.
HE DOESN'T HAVE THE ATTENTION SPAN, BUT HE CHOSE FOR THE GAME TO LAST 8 HOURS...
YOU'RE YOUR OWN WORST ENEMY!!


NOW CORNERED ...
CHEETU'S ABILITY IS INDEED STILL A WORK IN PROGRESS.
...HE CREATED A NEW ABILITY ON THE SPOT!!
WITH NOWHERE TO RUN...

Digital color version
HUNTER×HUNTER

Volume 23

Yoshihiro Togashi
®POT (Yoshihiro Togashi) 2005

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This work is based on the author's original drawing in addition to the author's color original drawing. This is a special edition version that was digitally colored by Shueisha.

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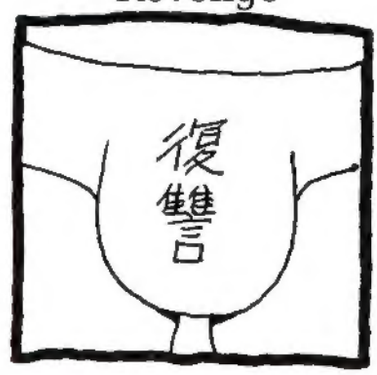
*Revenge



YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

TV Shows
From
Osaka Are
Hilarious!

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LOVE
J・C

背表紙・カバー折り返し

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JUMP COMICS

HUNTER × HUNTER

NO.23▶6—①

Yoshihiro Togashi

本体・表紙

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